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WYOMING LABOR FORCE TRENDS

VOL. 21 NO. 8 SEPT. 1984

TREND SETTERS

WYOMING	Sept. '84	Aug. '84
Labor Force	260,671	262,426
Employment	248,477	249,727
Unemployment	12,194	12,699
Rate (Raw)	4.7	4.8
Rate (S.A.)	5.6	5.5
Mining Hourly Wage	$12.97	$12.93
Avg. Weekly Hours, Mining	43.8	42.5
USA		
Rate (S.A.)	7.4	7.5
Mining Hourly Wage	$11.65	$11.57
Avg. Weekly Hours, Mining	43.9	43.6
Consumer Price Index		
All Urban 1967 = 100		
U.S. City Avg.	314.5	313.0
Denver (Bimonthly)	351.3	
Year Change (U.S.)	+4.2	+4.2

S.A.-Seasonally Adjusted

In this issue of *Trends* be sure to see this article:

— Explanation of Seasonal Adjustments

THE NATIONAL SCENE

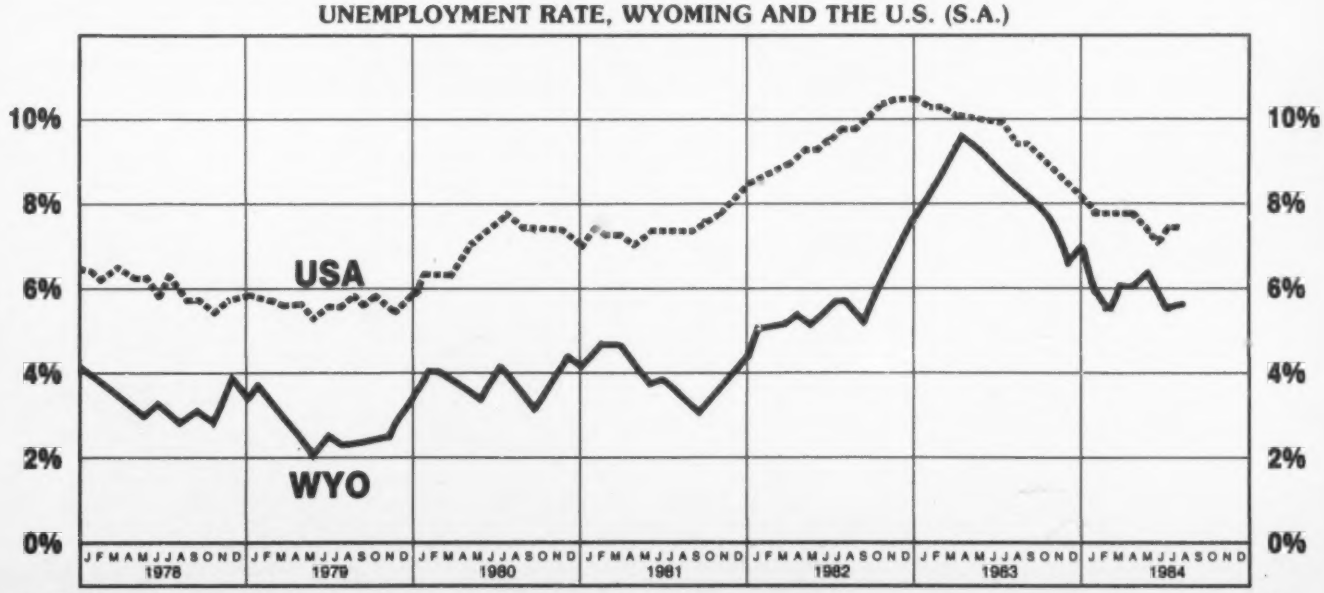
The Bureau of Labor Statistics reported that nationwide employment and unemployment were little changed in September, at 105.2 million workers and 8.5 million unemployed. At 7.4 percent, the September seasonally adjusted rate was about the same as the 7.5 percent of July and August and down from the 9.2 percent recorded in September 1983. Job losers accounted for half of the total unemployed in September.

Discouraged workers—people who say they want to work but are not seeking jobs because they believe they cannot find any—numbered 1.2 million in the third quarter of 1984. This was about 600,000 below the recessionary high of 1.8 million reached in the fourth quarter of 1982 when the unemployment rate exceeded 10.5 percent.

OCTOBER RATE REMAINS AT 7.4 PERCENT FOR U.S.

The recently released national unemployment rate for October remained the same as in September—7.4 percent seasonally adjusted.

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE, WYOMING AND THE U.S. (S.A.)



WYOMING EMPLOYMENT SECURITY COMMISSION, Research & Analysis Section

1983 UNEMPLOYMENT BY GROUPS – U.S. AND WYOMING

According to the 1983 Current Population Survey, a household survey conducted in all states by the U.S. Department of Labor, Wyoming's annual average unemployment rate of 8.4 percent was considerably less than the U.S. average of 9.6 percent. Did unemployment by groupings in the state follow the same trend? Unemployment for adult men in the U.S., at 8.9 percent, was a bit higher than Wyoming's 8.6 percent. Other groups for which comparisons are available are adult women, 8.1 and 6.7 percent; 16-19 year olds, 22.4 and 15.2 percent; whites, 8.4 and 7.9 percent; hispanics. 13.8 and 10.4 percent. Only in the case of blacks, 19.5 and 20.7 percent, did unemployment in Wyoming exceed the national average.

WYOMING UNEMPLOYMENT CONTINUES DOWNWARD TREND

The statewide seasonally adjusted unemployment rate in September registered 5.6 percent, not much different from the 5.5 percent of July and August, and almost two percentage points below the national average. The September 1983 rate was 8.2 percent. The number of unemployed at 12,200 jobseekers, the lowest number since January of 1982, continued to be sharply down from the 18,900 of September 1983.

In spite of the continuing year-to-year decline in unemployment, since the fall of last year, the employed labor force also continues to shrink. In September, almost 9,500 fewer people were working than a year ago, a decline of almost four percent. While most people would associate lower unemployment with an expanding job market this is not the case in the Wyoming economy. The unemployed are still leaving the state in search of greener pastures and there appears to be an increase in the number of discouraged workers, due to the exhaustion of unemployment benefits and lack of adequate job opportunities. Until job opportunities expand, especially in the energy sector where workers tend to have unique skills, no real employment growth is predicted.

WYOMING INDUSTRIAL TRENDS

The only noteworthy annual employment gain in the major industries took place in Contract Construction, up annually over 5,000 workers and 29 percent. Manufacturing was up 500 workers and 6 percent. Transportation and Public Utilities along with Trade and Finance, Insurance and Real Estate held at about year ago levels in September. Mining, Services, and Government employment were down from a year ago by 2,100, 1,200 and 800 workers.

REGIONAL UNEMPLOYMENT

The most recent data available for all 50 states is for August, in which Wyoming's unadjusted unemployment registered 4.8 percent. Of the border states, Montana, Idaho, and Utah had higher unemployment levels of 7.0, 6.6, and 5.8 percent. Nebraska, South Dakota, and Colorado had lower rates of 3.4, 3.5, and 4.7 percent. New Hampshire had the lowest rate in the nation, at 3.0 percent, and West Virginia continued at the highest with 13.6 percent.

WYOMING FIRST QUARTER 1984 WAGES UP 2.4 PERCENT

For the first time since the fourth quarter of 1982, recently compiled employer contribution data indicates an annual gain of 2.4 percent in the average weekly wage for the first quarter 1984. The all industry average of $348 a week, about $18,100 a year, included almost 16,500 firms employing over 181,500 workers covered by the Wyoming Unemployment Insurance Law. The national inflation rate, consumer price index, was up 4.5 percent annually during the same time frame.

Back in the "good old days" wages were up 12.2 percent annually in 1979, 12.6 percent in 1980, and 10.3 percent in 1981. In 1982 the annual gain had dropped to 4.8 percent and in 1983 the average weekly wage, at $341, was down 1.5 percent from 1982. Among the 50 states, Wyoming had the only annual pay decline in 1983 and was just 1.7 percent above the national average.

In the first quarter of the year Campbell County had the highest weekly wage of $449, or over $23,300 a year, followed by Sweetwater County at $432 a week. Teton County, at $235, had the lowest average weekly wage among the counties.

WYOMING SECOND QUARTER PERSONAL INCOME UP 8.5 PERCENT

According to a recent U.S. Department of Commerce release, Wyoming posted an annual gain of 8.5 percent in nonfarm personal income in the second quarter of 1984. This compared to a 9.4 percent gain for the nation. In the state, comparing the second quarter to the first quarter income was up 1.6 percent. This gain ranked Wyoming towards the bottom, 47th among the states, in percentage increases. The U.S. was up 2.5 percent over the first quarter with the largest gain, 3.5 percent, in Minnesota and the smallest gain of 0.6 percent in Delaware.

The largest industrial source of personal income in Wyoming, in the second quarter of this and last year, was the Government and Government enterprises. Compare this with 1978-1982 when Mining contributed the most in wage and salary disbursements.

In 1983 the Government was the largest employer in the state, at 48,800 workers; followed by Trade at 44,400; Services, 32,900; and Mining at 28,600. Manufacturing was the smallest industrial sector with 8,200 workers. In the U.S., Manufacturing had the highest total industrial wages paid and Mining was nearly at the bottom, only two percent of the total nonfarm earnings, compared to 21 percent in the Cowboy State.

AROUND THE STATE

The highest area rate of unemployment was in Fremont County, 7.1 percent, followed by Platte at 7.0 percent. Natrona County continued with the highest number of unemployed, over 2,000, followed by Laramie County, with over 1,400 unemployed. There were over 1,300 jobseekers in Fremont County and 1,100 in Sweetwater County. The lowest unemployment was in Johnson County at 2.2 percent. Statewide, the number of unemployed declined monthly by about 500, to approximately 12,200 out of work.

The total Civilian Labor Force was estimated to be about 260,700 in September, an unseasonal drop from the August estimate of 262,400, and a substantial decline of almost 6 percent from the September 1983 estimate of 276,900.

Historically, the labor force expands seasonally through September in Wyoming. This year that did not occur and preliminary data suggests that the labor force peaked a month earlier than normal—in August.

SEASONAL ADJUSTMENTS

Statistical modifications are made to compensate for predictable fluctuations which recur more or less regularly every year in a time series, such as unemployment rates. These fluctuations can be so strong as to distort the underlying changes in trends. For this reason unemployment rates both raw and seasonally adjusted are reported. The seasonally adjusted basis compensates for such influences as the summer closing of schools, temporary hiring for the holiday season, seasonal style changes, etc.

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX - (1967 = 100)

ALL URBAN

	ALL ITEMS	FOOD	HOUSING	RENT	APPAREL	TRANSP.	MEDICAL
September 1984	314.5	304.2	341.4	252.4	204.2	313.7	383.1
Annual % Change	4.2	4.0	4.6	5.4	1.9	3.3	6.1

WAGE EARNERS AND CLERICAL WORKERS

	ALL ITEMS	FOOD	HOUSING	RENT	APPAREL	TRANSP.	MEDICAL
August 1984	312.1	303.8	336.8	251.7	203.3	316.0	381.2
Annual % Change	3.8	3.8	3.5	5.4	2.0	3.4	6.1

EMPLOYERS PLEASE HELP US

We want to encourage anyone receiving questionnaires from the Employment Security Commission to please take ten minutes to fill them out and return them. Responses are kept confidential and no data is released that would allow you or your business to be identified. The information compiled from the survey is intended to be used by these employers as well as government officials and planners. Right now the state is authorized to publish monthly hours and earnings data for only two (mining and manufacturing) of the seven major industries. Our CES staff is working very hard to increase the sample size (presently it's around 1,550 employers). Employer response is of utmost importance in helping to create an adequate sample. In addition to the employment levels now published for all industries, we also would very much like to publish the hours and earnings data for those other five industries.

Table 1

WYOMING ECONOMIC INDICATORS

ITEM	SEP 1984 [1]	AUG 1984 [1]	SEP 1983 [2]	Percent Change From A Month Ago	Percent Change From A Year Ago
WYOMING EMPLOYMENT DATA					
Total Civilian Labor Force	260,671	262,426	276,883	- 0.7	- 5.9
Unemployment	12,194	12,699	18,927	- 4.0	- 35.6
Employed Labor Force	248,477	249,727	257,956	- 0.5	- 3.6
a. Covered Employment (Under Wyo. UI Law) [3]	194,300	193,500	197,616	0.4	- 1.6
b. Agriculture [3]	16,469	16,469	16,772	0.0	- 1.8
Total Unemployment Rate (Wyo.) Seas. Adj.*	4.7% 5.6%*	4.8% 5.5%*	6.8% 8.2%*	XXX	XXX
Total Unemployment Rate (U.S.) Seas. Adj.*	7.1% 7.4%*	7.3% 7.5%*	8.8% 9.2%*	XXX	XXX
Insured Unemployment Rate (Wyo.) [4]	1.2%	1.4%	2.4%	XXX	XXX
HOURS & EARNINGS					
Mining (Production Workers):					
Average Weekly Earnings	$ 568.09	$ 549.53	$ 520.38	3.4	9.2
Average Weekly Hours	43.8	42.5	42.0	3.1	4.3
Average Hourly Earnings	$ 12.97	$ 12.93	$ 12.39	0.3	4.7
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE					
Claims Filed in Local Offices	11,082	15,661	28,261	- 29.2	- 60.8
a. Initial	1,580	1,917	2,477	- 17.6	- 36.2
Weeks Compensated	8,402	12,930	28,370	- 35.0	- 70.4
Total Amount Benefits Paid	$ 1,230,131	$ 1,856,881	$ 4,027,482	- 33.8	- 69.5
Average Weekly Benefit Payment	$ 146.41	$ 143.61	$ 141.96	1.9	3.1
EMPLOYMENT SERVICE					
New Applications Received During Month	3,565	4,545	4,942	- 21.6	- 27.8
Non-Ag. Openings Received	4,048	5,112	2,994	- 20.8	35.2
Non-Ag. Placements	3,492	3,988	4,385	- 12.4	- 20.4
UNITED STATES DATA					
HOURS & EARNINGS					
Mining (Production Workers):					
Average Weekly Earnings	$ 511.44	$ 504.45	$ 488.32	1.4	4.7
Average Weekly Hours	43.9	43.6	43.1	0.7	1.9
Average Hourly Earnings	$ 11.65	$ 11.57	$ 11.33	0.7	2.8
PRICE INDEXES					
Consumer Price Index 1967 = 100	314.5	313.0	301.8	0.5	4.2
Producer Prices, All Commodities	309.5	310.9	305.3	- 0.5	1.4
Retail Prices of Food 1967 = 100	304.2	304.8	292.6	- 0.2	4.0

[1] Preliminary. [2] Final. [3] Not Benchmarked to the Current Population Survey. [4] Rate does not include claimants receiving benefits under extended benefit provisions.

Table 2

WYOMING
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE & UNEMPLOYMENT

COUNTY	LABOR FORCE					UNEMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT RATE		
	SEP 1984	AUG 1984	SEP 1983	%CHANGE AUG-SEP	%CHANGE SEP-SEP	SEP 1984	AUG 1984	SEP 1983	SEP 1984	AUG 1984	SEP 1983
Statewide	260,671	262,426	276,883	- 0.7	- 5.9	12,194	12,699	18,927	4.7	4.8	6.8
Albany	15,661	15,347	16,054	2.0	- 2.4	461	493	824	2.9	3.2	5.1
Big Horn	5,404	5,357	5,968	0.9	- 9.5	257	277	332	4.8	5.2	5.6
Campbell	17,974	18,471	20,362	- 2.7	- 11.7	811	833	1,253	4.5	4.5	6.2
Carbon	9,208	9,406	10,909	- 2.1	- 15.6	404	416	1,055	4.4	4.4	9.7
Converse	7,163	7,034	7,746	1.8	- 7.5	366	379	474	5.1	5.4	6.1
Crook	3,131	3,106	3,243	0.8	- 3.5	108	118	165	3.5	3.8	5.1
Fremont	18,799	17,981	20,226	4.5	- 7.1	1,334	1,413	1,562	7.1	7.9	7.7
Goshen	7,454	7,382	7,502	1.0	- 0.6	322	342	254	4.3	4.6	3.4
Hot Springs	3,087	3,025	3,173	2.0	- 2.7	112	115	155	3.6	3.8	4.9
Johnson	4,252	4,193	4,582	1.4	- 7.2	93	105	188	2.2	2.5	4.1
Laramie	35,049	34,848	35,374	0.6	- 0.9	1,441	1,318	2,284	4.1	3.8	6.5
Lincoln	6,478	6,383	6,611	1.5	- 2.0	301	343	520	4.7	5.4	7.9
Natrona	39,192	39,392	40,654	- 0.5	- 3.6	2,024	2,162	3,896	5.2	5.5	9.6
Niobrara	1,757	1,682	1,775	4.5	- 1.0	84	79	105	4.8	4.7	5.9
Park	15,319	17,756	15,597	- 13.7	- 1.8	557	612	609	3.6	3.4	3.9
Platte	4,038	3,949	4,414	2.3	- 8.5	281	305	366	7.0	7.7	8.3
Sheridan	14,446	14,307	15,007	1.0	- 3.7	842	881	961	5.8	6.2	6.4
Sublette	2,490	2,492	2,799	- 0.1	- 11.0	79	98	156	3.2	3.9	5.6
Sweetwater	20,116	19,643	23,945	2.4	- 16.0	1,104	1,173	2,108	5.5	6.0	8.8
Teton	9,433	10,824	9,678	- 12.9	- 2.5	268	235	310	2.8	2.2	3.2
Uinta	11,088	10,793	11,646	2.7	- 4.8	608	602	809	5.5	5.6	6.9
Washakie	5,439	5,408	5,621	0.6	- 3.2	197	243	272	3.6	4.5	4.8
Weston	3,694	3,648	3,997	1.3	- 7.6	138	156	268	3.7	4.3	6.7

Table 3

NON-FARM WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT IN WYOMING [1]

(Prepared in Cooperation with U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics)

INDUSTRY	EMPLOYMENT (In thousands)			% Change on Total Emp.	
	SEP 1984[2]	AUG 1984 [3]	SEP 1983	AUG 1984	AUG 1983
	Total	Total	Total	to SEP 1984	to SEP 1984
WYOMING NON-FARM WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT					
Total Non-Farm Wage & Salary Employment	213.0	212.6	211.4	0.2	0.8
Manufacturing	9.0	8.9	8.5	1.1	5.9
Durable Goods	4.2	4.4	4.1	- 4.5	2.4
Nondurable Goods	4.8	4.5	4.4	6.7	9.1
Petroleum & Coal Products	1.3	1.3	1.3	0.0	0.0
Total Non-Manufacturing Employment	204.0	203.7	202.9	0.1	0.5
Mining	26.9	27.6	29.0	- 2.5	- 7.2
Contract Construction	23.3	23.5	18.1	- 0.8	28.7
Transportation & Public Utilities	16.3	16.6	16.5	- 1.8	- 1.2
Railroad Transportation	3.2	3.3	3.4	- 3.0	- 5.9
Transportation except Railroads	6.3	6.4	6.2	- 1.6	1.6
Comm., Elect., Gas & Sani. Serv.	6.8	6.9	7.0	- 1.4	- 2.9
Wholesale & Retail Trade	45.6	46.3	45.4	- 1.5	0.4
Wholesale Trade	8.6	8.6	8.8	0.0	- 2.3
Retail Trade	37.0	37.7	36.6	- 1.9	1.1
Ret. Gen. Mdse., App. & Access. Stores	6.4	6.5	5.7	1.5	12.3
Food Stores	5.0	4.9	5.1	2.0	- 2.0
Automotive Dealers & Serv. Stat.	6.3	6.7	6.2	- 6.0	1.6
Eating & Drinking Places	13.0	13.2	13.0	- 1.5	0.0
Other Retail Trade	6.3	6.4	6.6	- 0.6	- 4.5
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate	7.6	7.7	7.6	- 1.3	0.0
Services	33.2	34.9	34.4	- 4.8	- 15.7
Personal Services	2.0	2.0	1.6	0.0	25.0
Medical & Other Health Services	6.3	6.4	6.5	- 1.6	- 3.1
Government	51.1	47.1	51.9	8.5	- 1.5
Federal Government	7.4	8.5	7.1	- 12.9	4.2
State & Local Government	43.7	38.6	44.8	13.2	- 2.5
State Government	12.4	12.0	12.5	3.3	- 0.8
Local Government	31.3	26.6	32.3	17.7	- 3.1

(See Footnotes at End of Table)

NON-FARM WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT IN WYOMING [1]

Table 3 (Cont'd) *(Prepared in Cooperation with U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics)*

INDUSTRY	EMPLOYMENT (In thousands)			% Change on Total Emp.	
	SEP 1984[2]	AUG 1984 [3]	SEP 1983	AUG 1984	AUG 1983
	Total	Total	Total	to SEP 1984	to SEP 1984
CASPER (Natrona County)					
TOTAL NON-FARM WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT	35.5	35.4	33.6	0.3	5.7
Manufacturing	1.5	1.4	1.3	7.1	15.4
Nondurable Goods	0.9	0.9	0.8	0.0	12.5
Petroleum & Coal Products	0.6	0.5	0.5	20.0	20.0
Total Non-Manufacturing Employment	34.0	34.0	32.3	0.0	5.3
Mining	5.3	5.4	5.0	- 1.9	6.0
Oil & Gas Extraction	4.7	4.7	4.5	0.0	4.4
Other Mining, Quarrying, etc.	0.6	0.7	0.5	- 14.3	20.0
Contract Construction	2.9	3.0	2.3	- 3.3	26.1
Transportation & Public Utilities	2.2	2.2	2.4	0.0	- 8.3
Wholesale & Retail Trade	9.5	9.5	9.2	0.0	3.3
Wholesale Trade	3.5	3.5	3.5	0.0	0.0
Retail Trade	6.0	6.0	5.6	0.0	7.1
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate	1.6	1.7	1.7	- 5.9	- 5.9
Services	5.8	5.9	5.9	- 1.7	- 1.7
Government	6.7	6.3	5.8	6.3	15.5
Federal Government	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.0	0.0
State & Local Government	6.0	5.6	5.1	7.1	17.6
CHEYENNE (Laramie County)					
TOTAL NON-FARM WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT	31.5	31.2	29.6	1.0	6.4
Manufacturing	1.0	1.0	1.0	0.0	0.0
Total Non-Manufacturing Employment	30.5	30.2	28.6	1.0	6.6
Contract Construction	2.2	2.3	1.9	- 4.3	15.8
Transportation & Public Utilities	3.4	3.7	3.7	- 8.1	- 8.1
Wholesale & Retail Trade	7.5	7.6	7.0	- 1.3	7.1
Wholesale Trade	0.9	0.9	0.8	0.0	8.3
Retail Trade	6.6	6.7	6.2	- 1.5	6.5
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate	1.8	1.8	1.7	0.0	5.9
Services & Miscellaneous	6.1	6.0	4.9	1.7	24.5
Government	9.5	8.8	9.4	8.0	1.1
Federal Government	2.4	2.4	2.3	0.0	4.3
State & Local Government	7.1	6.4	7.1	10.9	0.0

[1] Estimates include all full and part-time wage and salary workers in non-ag, establishments who worked or received pay during the week which includes the 12th of the month. Proprietors, self-employeds, domestic servants and personnel of the armed forces are excluded. [2] Subject to revision. [3] Revised figures.

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WYOMING LABOR FORCE TRENDS

The *Wyoming Labor Force Trends* is published monthly by the Research and Analysis Section of the Wyoming Employment Security Commission, Dick Sadler, Executive Director.

Please send comments, questions or address changes to Wyoming Employment Security Commission, Research and Analysis Section, P.O. Box 2760, Casper, WY 82602, Ph. (307) 235-3643.

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WYOMING

VOL. 21 NO. 9 OCT. 1984

LABOR FORCE TRENDS

TREND SETTERS

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Employment	242,462	245,656
Unemployment	13,207	12,189
Rate (Raw)	5.2	4.7
Rate (S.A.)	5.8	5.7
Mining Hourly Wage	$12.76	$13.07
Avg. Weekly Hours, Mining	43.8	43.2
USA		
Rate (S.A.)	7.4	7.4
Mining Hourly Wage	$11.58	$11.65
Avg. Weekly Hours, Mining	43.6	43.9
Consumer Price Index		
All Urban 1967 = 100		
U.S. City Avg.	315.3	314.5
Denver (Bimonthly)		351.3
Year Change (U.S.)	+4.2	+4.2

S.A.-Seasonally Adjusted

THE UNITED STATES

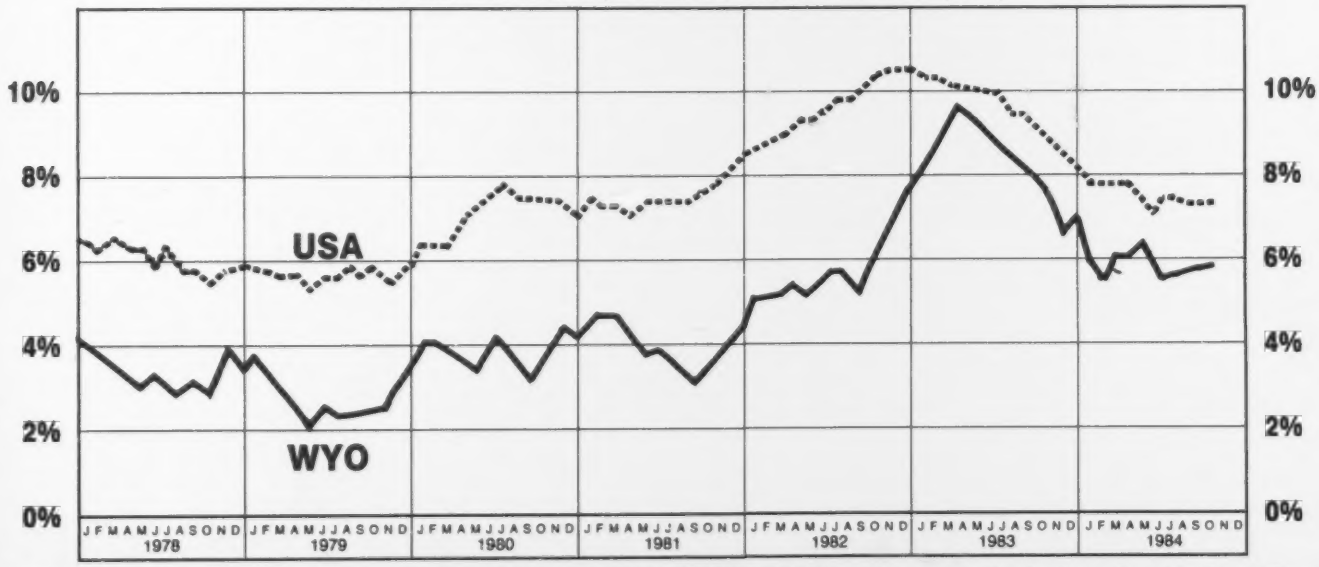
U.S. employment was up and the number of unemployed remained unchanged from September, according to seasonally adjusted data released for October by the Bureau of Labor Statistics. The civilian unemployment rate remained at 7.4 percent, 3.3 percentage points below the November 1982 recession high, and civilian employment increased by 350,000 to 105.6 million in October. The monthly employment increase occurred entirely among adults.

The labor force participation rate, which is the labor force as a percent of the noninstitutional population, stood at 64.4 percent in October. Adult men continued with a much higher participation rate, at 78.3 percent, as compared to adult women at 53.9 percent.

U.S. NOVEMBER RATE DROPS TO 7.2 PERCENT

The recently released national unemployment rate for November fell to 7.2 percent, seasonally adjusted. This is the lowest unemployment recorded since June of this year when the rate was 7.1 percent.

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE, WYOMING AND THE U.S. (S.A.)



WYOMING EMPLOYMENT SECURITY COMMISSION, Research & Analysis Section

WYOMING UNEMPLOYMENT AT 5.8 PERCENT IN OCTOBER

The statewide seasonally adjusted unemployment rate in October registered 5.8 percent, up a bit from the 5.5 and 5.7 percent of August and September, and 1.6 percentage points below the national average. The October 1983 rate was 7.3 percent.

The employed labor force continues to shrink from last year levels, down over 5,100 job holders from a year ago, a decline of over 2 percent. The unemployment rate, down largely due to outmigration of the unemployed, will not see a further significant decline until job opportunities expand.

Outmigration of the unemployed, due to the job mobility of mining and construction workers, has held the Wyoming jobless rate under the national average, as illustrated by the graph on the cover page. Even during the spring of 1983, when seasonally adjusted unemployment reached 9.8 percent and was the highest in the state since 1963, Wyoming was still one percentage point below the U.S. peak recessionary level of 10.8 percent at the end of 1982.

NATIVE WYOMINGITES, A SCARCE COMMODITY

The U.S. Bureau of the Census determined that in 1980 only 39 percent of all the people living in Wyoming were actually born in the state. This ranks Wyoming fifth among the states, behind Nevada, Florida, Alaska and Arizona for the smallest proportion of natives. Nevada, at 21 percent, had the fewest natives and Pennsylvania at 82 percent had the most.

INDUSTRIAL TRENDS

In Wyoming the only noteworthy annual employment gains in the major industrial sectors took place in Contract Construction, up 4,800 workers and 28 percent.

Manufacturing was up 400 workers and 5 percent. Trade, Finance, Insurance & Real Estate and Services held at about year ago levels in October. Mining, Transportation & Public Utilities, and Government employment were down from a year ago by 2,500, 400 and 400 workers, respectively.

REGIONAL UNEMPLOYMENT

The most recent data available for all 50 states is for September, in which Wyoming's unadjusted unemployment was 4.7 percent. Of the border states, Montana, Idaho, Utah and Colorado had higher unemployment rates of 6.2, 5.6, 5.6 and 4.8 percent. Nebraska and South Dakota had lower rates, both at 3.6 percent.

In the nation New Hampshire continued with the lowest rate, 2.8 percent, and West Virginia continues to have the highest rate at 13.1 percent.

WYOMING DESIGNATED AREA OF SUBSTANTIAL UNEMPLOYMENT

The entire state of Wyoming was recently designated as an Area of Substantial Unemployment (ASU) by the U.S. Department of Labor. The state qualified as an ASU because the average unemployment rate exceeded 6.5 percent in a specified 12 month time period. As an ASU Wyoming will receive additional federal funding for the Job Training Partnership Act (JTPA). For additional information on JTPA, which provides training in certain fields and employer incentives, contact any Job Service Center.

WYOMING SECOND QUARTER 1984 WAGES UP 2.2 PERCENT

Recently compiled employer contribution data for the second quarter of 1984 indicate an annual gain of 2.2 percent in the all industry average weekly wage. The all industry average of $346 a week, about $18,000 a year, includes almost 16,700 firms employing over 189,500 workers who are covered by the Wyoming Unemployment Insurance Law. The consumer price index was up 4.3 percent annually during the same time frame.

First quarter 1984 wages, at $348 a week for all industries, were also up 2.4 percent over the year. Thus far, 1984 compares favorably with 1983, when the average weekly wage, at $341, was down 1.5 percent from 1982. Among the states, Wyoming had the only pay decline in 1983 and was just 1.7 percent above the national average.

In the second quarter of 1984, Campbell and Sweetwater counties had the highest weekly wage of $435, or over $22,600 a year. Teton County, at $230, had the lowest average weekly wage among the counties.

COUNTY HIGHLIGHTS

The highest rate of unemployment continued in Fremont County, at 7.2 percent, followed by Niobrara County at 6.9 percent. The Casper area, Natrona County, continued with the highest number of unemployed with almost 2,100 jobseekers. Laramie and Fremont counties followed with 1,700 and 1,300 unemployed. Statewide, the number of unemployed increased monthly by over 1,000, to approximately 13,200 out of work. Monthly seasonal unemployment gains will probably continue through January or February of next year. For more detail please refer to Table 2.

LINCOLN COUNTY CLASSIFIED AS A LABOR SURPLUS AREA

Lincoln County is currently the only area in Wyoming classified as a labor surplus area by the U.S. Department of Labor. Employers located in labor surplus areas can be given preference in bidding on federal procurement contracts. The purpose in providing such preference is to help direct the government's procurement dollars into areas where people are in most severe economic need; areas with the highest rate of unemployment.

WYOMING LABOR FORCE PARTICIPATION RATE RANKS 2ND

In 1983 the U.S. labor force participation rate was 64.0 percent. This compares to Wyoming's rate, for the same year, of 72.4 percent, tied with Nevada for the second highest in the nation behind Alaska.

The male participation rate was 84.5 percent, compared to 60.7 percent for women. West Virginia had the lowest participation rate with 52.4 percent.

In spite of the yearly increase in unemployment in 1983, 8.4 percent annual average compared to 5.8 percent in 1982, the 1983 participation rate was up from 71.4 percent in 1982.

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX - (1967 = 100)

ALL URBAN

	ALL ITEMS	FOOD	HOUSING	RENT	APPAREL	TRANSP.	MEDICAL
October 1984	315.3	304.4	341.2	253.8	205.7	315.5	385.5
Annual % Change	4.2	3.9	4.4	5.6	2.5	3.4	6.2

WAGE EARNERS AND CLERICAL WORKERS

	ALL ITEMS	FOOD	HOUSING	RENT	APPAREL	TRANSP.	MEDICAL
October 1984	312.2	304.0	335.5	253.1	204.8	317.8	383.7
Annual % Change	3.6	3.8	3.2	5.5	2.5	3.6	6.3

RECENT RESEARCH AND ANALYSIS PUBLICATIONS

- **1985 Wyoming Annual Planning Report;** a comprehensive analysis of labor market developments for the state and its counties.
- **State and County Summary of Covered Employment Annual Report;** gives average employment and average weekly wages by industry for the state and its counties for 1981, 1982, and 1983.
- **Third Quarter 1984 Report of Applicants and Job Openings;** comes from information supplied by Wyoming's 16 Job Service Centers entailing an analysis of job openings and applicants and characteristics of both.
- **Occupational Employment Statistics, Manufacturing and Hospitals in Wyoming: 1983;** based on a sample of these industries, this report identifies the staffing patterns and occupations comprising these industries.
- **The Statistical Review of Wyoming;** not published since the mid-1970's, this 150 page report compiles all the significant data generated by the Wyoming Employment Security Commission from 1939 to 1984.

Table 1

WYOMING ECONOMIC INDICATORS

ITEM	OCT 1984 [1]	SEP 1984 [1]	OCT 1983 [2]	Percent Change From A Month Ago	Percent Change From A Year Ago
WYOMING EMPLOYMENT DATA					
Total Civilian Labor Force	255,669	257,845	264,851	- 0.8	- 3.5
Unemployment	13,207	12,189	17,268	8.3	- 23.5
Employed Labor Force	242,462	245,656	247,583	- 1.3	- 2.1
a. Covered Employment (Under Wyo. UI Law) [3]	191,000	194,300	194,261	- 1.7	- 1.7
b. Agriculture [3]	13,175	16,469	13,418	- 20.0	- 1.8
Total Unemployment Rate (Wyo.) Seas. Adj.*	5.2% 5.8%*	4.7% 5.7%*	6.5% 7.3%*	XXX	XXX
Total Unemployment Rate (U.S.) Seas. Adj.*	7.0% 7.4%*	7.1% 7.4%*	8.4% 8.8%*	XXX	XXX
Insured Unemployment Rate (Wyo.) [4]	1.4%	1.2%	2.4%	XXX	XXX
HOURS & EARNINGS					
Mining (Production Workers):					
Average Weekly Earnings	$ 558.89	$ 564.62	$ 506.74	- 1.0	10.3
Average Weekly Hours	43.8	43.2	40.8	1.4	7.4
Average Hourly Earnings	$ 12.76	$ 13.07	$ 12.42	- 2.4	2.7
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE					
Claims Filed in Local Offices	14,085	11,082	34,075	27.1	- 58.7
a. Initial	2,468	1,580	3,575	56.2	- 31.0
Weeks Compensated	10,460	8,402	21,368	24.5	- 51.0
Total Amount Benefits Paid	$ 1,472,168	$ 1,230,131	$ 2,661,187	19.7	- 44.7
Average Weekly Benefit Payment	$ 140.74	$ 146.41	$ 124.54	- 3.9	13.0
EMPLOYMENT SERVICE					
New Applications Received During Month	3,184	3,565	2,708	- 10.7	17.8
Non-Ag. Openings Received	3,214	4,048	2,284	- 20.6	40.7
Non-Ag. Placements	3,136	3,492	2,007	- 10.2	56.3
UNITED STATES DATA					
HOURS & EARNINGS					
Mining (Production Workers):					
Average Weekly Earnings	$ 504.89	$ 511.44	$ 489.46	- 1.3	3.2
Average Weekly Hours	43.6	43.9	43.2	- 0.7	0.9
Average Hourly Earnings	$ 11.58	$ 11.65	$ 11.33	- 0.6	2.2
PRICE INDEXES					
Consumer Price Index 1967 = 100	315.3	314.5	302.6	0.3	4.2
Producer Prices, All Commodities	309.5	309.4	306.0	0.0	1.1
Retail Prices of Food 1967 = 100	304.4	304.2	292.9	0.1	3.9

[1] Preliminary. [2] Final. [3] Not Benchmarked to the Current Population Survey. [4] Rate does not include claimants receiving benefits under extended benefit provisions.

WYOMING
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE & UNEMPLOYMENT

Table 2

(Prepared in Cooperation with U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics)

COUNTY	LABOR FORCE					UNEMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT RATE		
	OCT 1984	SEP 1984	OCT 1983	%CHANGE SEP-OCT	%CHANGE OCT-OCT	OCT 1984	SEP 1984	OCT 1983	OCT 1984	SEP 1984	OCT 1983
Statewide	255,669	257,845	264,851	- 0.8	- 3.5	13,207	12,189	17,268	5.2	4.7	6.5
Albany	14,714	15,217	14,947	- 3.3	- 1.6	419	456	609	2.8	3.0	4.1
Big Horn	5,322	5,421	5,701	- 1.8	- 6.6	259	257	304	4.9	4.7	5.3
Campbell	18,208	18,031	19,675	1.0	- 7.5	961	811	1,030	5.3	4.5	5.2
Carbon	9,384	9,216	10,486	1.8	- 10.5	520	410	864	5.5	4.4	8.2
Converse	6,869	6,972	7,443	- 1.5	- 7.7	361	367	452	5.3	5.3	6.1
Crook	3,029	3,059	3,148	- 1.0	- 3.8	127	108	146	4.2	3.5	4.6
Fremont	18,299	18,308	20,473	- 0.1	- 10.6	1,317	1,329	2,320	7.2	7.3	11.3
Goshen	7,164	7,284	7,286	- 1.6	- 1.7	283	322	254	3.9	4.4	3.5
Hot Springs	3,020	3,003	3,081	0.6	- 2.0	113	111	113	3.7	3.7	3.7
Johnson	4,306	4,144	4,633	3.9	- 7.1	149	92	215	3.4	2.2	4.6
Laramie	35,047	35,096	33,457	- 0.1	4.8	1,650	1,444	2,046	4.7	4.1	6.1
Lincoln	6,172	6,308	6,189	- 2.2	- 0.3	367	300	477	5.9	4.8	7.7
Natrona	39,816	39,334	39,490	1.2	0.8	2,057	2,024	3,018	5.2	5.1	7.6
Niobrara	1,809	1,721	1,754	5.1	3.1	124	83	82	6.9	4.9	4.7
Park	13,489	14,917	13,722	- 9.6	- 1.7	562	553	582	4.2	3.7	4.2
Platte	3,837	3,953	4,239	- 2.9	- 9.5	246	281	333	6.4	7.1	7.9
Sheridan	14,325	14,082	14,673	1.7	- 2.4	971	848	945	6.8	6.0	6.4
Sublette	2,329	2,434	2,596	- 4.3	- 10.3	56	79	130	2.4	3.3	5.0
Sweetwater	20,618	20,164	23,467	2.3	- 12.1	1,194	1,107	1,856	5.8	5.5	7.9
Teton	7,363	9,164	7,462	- 19.7	- 1.3	416	264	390	5.7	2.9	5.2
Uinta	11,460	11,118	11,441	3.1	0.2	663	608	584	5.8	5.5	5.1
Washakie	5,449	5,303	5,585	2.8	- 2.4	239	196	272	4.4	3.7	4.9
Weston	3,639	3,596	3,900	1.2	- 6.7	155	137	244	4.3	3.8	6.3

Table 3

NON-FARM WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT IN WYOMING [1]

(Prepared in Cooperation with U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics)

INDUSTRY	EMPLOYMENT (In thousands)			% Change on Total Emp.	
	OCT 1984[2]	SEP 1984[3]	OCT 1983	SEP 1984	OCT 1983
	Total	Total	Total	to OCT 1984	to OCT 1984
WYOMING NON-FARM WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT					
Total Non-Farm Wage & Salary Employment	207.2	209.8	205.3	- 1.2	0.9
Manufacturing	9.3	9.0	8.9	3.3	4.5
Durable Goods	4.2	4.2	4.0	0.0	5.0
Nondurable Goods	5.1	4.8	4.9	6.3	4.1
Petroleum & Coal Products	0.6	0.6	0.5	0.0	20.0
Total Non-Manufacturing Employment	197.9	200.8	196.4	- 1.4	0.8
Mining	26.3	26.5	28.8	- 0.8	- 8.7
Contract Construction	22.0	23.2	17.2	- 5.2	27.9
Transportation & Public Utilities	16.1	16.4	16.5	- 1.8	- 2.4
Railroad Transportation	3.2	3.3	3.5	- 3.0	- 8.6
Transportation except Railroads	6.1	6.3	6.1	- 3.2	0.0
Comm., Elect., Gas & Sani. Serv.	6.8	6.8	6.9	0.0	- 1.4
Wholesale & Retail Trade	44.1	44.7	44.3	- 1.3	- 0.5
Wholesale Trade	8.6	8.7	8.8	- 1.1	- 2.3
Retail Trade	35.5	36.0	35.5	- 1.4	0.0
Food Stores	5.1	4.9	5.1	4.1	0.0
Automotive Dealers & Serv. Stat.	6.1	6.3	5.7	- 3.2	7.0
Eating & Drinking Places	10.0	12.1	12.7	- 0.8	- 5.5
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate	7.6	7.6	7.6	0.0	0.0
Services	30.7	32.8	30.5	- 6.4	0.7
Personal Services	1.9	2.0	1.7	- 5.0	11.8
Medical & Other Health Services	6.4	6.4	6.4	0.0	0.0
Government	51.1	49.6	51.5	3.0	- 0.8
Federal Government	7.5	7.4	6.9	1.4	8.7
State & Local Government	43.6	42.2	44.6	3.3	- 2.2
State Government	12.9	12.3	13.0	4.9	- 0.8
Local Government	30.7	29.9	31.6	2.7	- 2.8

(See Footnotes at End of Table)

NON-FARM WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT IN WYOMING [1]

Table 3 (Cont'd)

(Prepared in Cooperation with U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics)

INDUSTRY	EMPLOYMENT (In thousands)			% Change on Total Emp.	
	OCT 1984[2]	SEP 1984 [3]	OCT 1983	SEP 1984	OCT 1983
	Total	Total	Total	to OCT 1984	to OCT 1984
CASPER (Natrona County)					
TOTAL NON-FARM WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT	35.6	35.5	34.5	0.3	3.2
Manufacturing	1.5	1.5	1.3	0.0	15.4
Nondurable Goods	0.9	0.9	0.8	0.0	12.5
Petroleum & Coal Products	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.0	0.0
Total Non-Manufacturing Employment	34.1	34.0	33.2	0.3	2.7
Mining	5.4	5.3	5.0	1.9	8.0
Oil & Gas Extraction	4.8	4.7	4.5	2.1	6.7
Other Mining, Quarrying, etc.	0.6	0.6	0.5	0.0	20.0
Contract Construction	2.7	3.0	2.3	10.0	17.4
Transportation & Public Utilities	2.1	2.1	2.4	0.0	- 12.5
Wholesale & Retail Trade	9.5	9.6	9.2	- 1.0	3.3
Wholesale Trade	3.5	3.6	3.5	- 2.8	0.0
Retail Trade	6.0	6.0	5.7	0.0	5.3
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate	1.7	1.7	1.7	0.0	0.0
Services	5.7	5.7	5.9	0.0	- 3.4
Government	7.0	6.6	6.7	6.1	4.5
Federal Government	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.0	0.0
State & Local Government	6.4	6.0	6.1	6.7	4.9
CHEYENNE (Laramie County)					
TOTAL NON-FARM WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT	30.9	31.4	29.9	- 1.6	3.3
Manufacturing	1.0	1.0	1.0	0.0	0.0
Total Non-Manufacturing Employment	29.9	30.4	28.9	- 1.6	3.5
Contract Construction	2.2	2.3	1.8	- 4.3	22.2
Transportation & Public Utilities	3.3	3.5	3.7	- 5.7	- 10.8
Wholesale & Retail Trade	7.3	7.5	7.1	- 2.7	2.8
Wholesale Trade	0.9	0.8	0.8	12.5	12.5
Retail Trade	6.4	6.7	6.3	- 4.5	1.6
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate	1.8	1.8	1.7	0.0	5.9
Services & Miscellaneous	5.8	6.0	5.1	- 3.3	12.3
Government	9.5	9.3	9.5	2.2	0.0
Federal Government	2.4	2.4	2.3	0.0	4.3
State & Local Government	7.1	6.9	7.2	2.9	- 1.4

[1] Estimates include all full and part-time wage and salary workers in non-ag, establishments who worked or received pay during the week which includes the 12th of the month. Proprietors, self-employeds, domestic servants and personnel of the armed forces are excluded. [2] Subject to revision. [3] Revised figures.

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WYOMING LABOR FORCE TRENDS

The *Wyoming Labor Force Trends* is published monthly by the Research and Analysis Section of the Wyoming Employment Security Commission, Dick Sadler, Executive Director.

Please send comments, questions or address changes to Wyoming Employment Security Commission, Research and Analysis Section, P.O. Box 2760, Casper, WY 82602, Ph. (307) 235-3643.

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WYOMING

VOL. 21 NO. 10 NOV. 1984

LABOR FORCE TRENDS

TREND SETTERS

WYOMING	Nov. '84	Oct. '84
Labor Force	251,925	254,517
Employment	237,734	241,300
Unemployment	14,191	13,217
Rate (Raw)	5.6	5.2
Rate (S.A.)	5.5	5.8
Mining Hourly Wage	$13.26	$13.04
Avg. Weekly Hours, Mining	42.9	42.8
USA		
Rate (S.A.)	7.1	7.4
Mining Hourly Wage	$11.54	$11.50
Avg. Weekly Hours, Mining	43.6	43.2
Consumer Price Index		
All Urban 1967 = 100		
U.S. City Avg.	315.3	315.3
Denver (Bimonthly)	349.4	
Year Change (U.S.)	+4.0	+4.2

S.A.-Seasonally Adjusted

In this issue of *Trends* be sure to see these articles:

- Cost of Living, the CPI, and Inflation
- The Covered Employment Annual 1981-1983
- Record Number of Bankruptcies in Wyoming
- Eschew Obfuscation

NATIONAL SCENE

The Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) reported that unemployment declined and employment rose during the month of November. Civilian unemployment dropped to a seasonally adjusted 7.1 percent, down from the 7.4 percent recorded in October. This translates to nearly 8.2 million unemployed, while 105.9 million people are considered working. According to the BLS, the jobless total has declined by 3.7 million and the rate has dropped 3.5 percentage points since the recessionary peak in November of 1982.

U.S. DECEMBER RATES JUST RECEIVED

The Bureau of Labor Statistics has just determined that the U.S. seasonally adjusted civilian unemployment rate for December of 1984 was 7.2 percent. This is an increase of one tenth of a percent over November's revised rate of 7.1 percent. Despite the fact that employment figures have recently set record highs, there are still approximately eight million people out of work.

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE, WYOMING AND THE U.S. (S.A.)

WYOMING EMPLOYMENT SECURITY COMMISSION, Research & Analysis Section

IN WYOMING

It's common knowledge that the fall and winter months in Wyoming means fewer jobs and higher unemployment rates. Between October and November of 1984 the number of unemployed persons in Wyoming increased by nearly 1,000 up to a total of 14,200. The rate itself increased from 5.2 percent in October to 5.6 percent in November. This is still 3,200 fewer unemployed and 1.2 percentage points less than what the state was experiencing in November of 1983. See Table 2. Wyoming's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for November was 5.5 percent, which compares favorably with the U.S rate of 7.1 percent.

The labor force, numbers employed, and numbers unemployed all continue to be less than the levels experienced for the same month a year ago. Because of the severity of Wyoming's 1983 recession, extreme caution has pervaded the state's labor market. Many feel that the state has actually lost population in the last eighteen months. However, due to good weather so far this winter, some construction work has been continuing. The outlook for the spring and summer of 1985 is definitely upbeat as there are many large construction projects scheduled or already begun.

COUNTY HIGHLIGHTS

In November, Teton County had the highest rate of unemployment, at 10.6 percent. See Table 2. Only three other counties had rates over 7 percent. They were Lincoln, Platte, and Fremont counties at 9.0, 7.6, and 7.1 percent respectively. Natrona County continued to have the highest number unemployed with nearly 2,200 jobseekers. Laramie and Fremont counties followed with 1,700 and 1,300 jobless. Albany and Johnson counties had the lowest unemployment rates of 3.6 and 3.7 percent.

EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY

The Current Employment Statistics (CES) program preliminary data for November 1984 was the source for Table 3 and the observations in this section. Transportation and Utilities along with Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate sectors neither gained nor lost employment between the Novembers of 1983 and 1984. Increases included: Manufacturing +600; Construction +2,700; and Trade +900. Decreases more than offset the increases over-the-year and included: Mining −2,500; Services −900; and Government −1,400. Construction employment is expected to stay strong for a couple of years. As the Mining and Service industries begin to recover, demand for employees in Trade, Transportation, Communication, and Public Utilities will increase.

REGIONAL DATA

For the month of October (most recent data available for all states) two of Wyoming's bordering states had lower unemployment rates, three had higher rates, and Idaho was the same, at 5.2 percent. Montana, Utah, and Colorado had higher rates of 6.2, 5.7, and 5.6 percent respectively. Nebraska and South Dakota had lower unemployment rates of 4.2 and 4.0 percent respectively.

ESCHEW OBFUSCATION

Quite often economics, statistics, and related labor market information can be confusing. See if the following paragraphs can help you avoid confusion.

Recent Commerce Department statistics happily report that sales and income figures show an easing up of the rate at which business is easing off. This definitely confirms that there is a slow, but noticeable slowing up of the slowdown. Keep in mind that a slowing up of the slowdown is not as good as an upturn in the down curve. However, it is much better than either a deepening of the down curve or a speedup of the slowdown. This indeed indicates that it is time for an adjustment to the readjustment.

Considering unemployment, we see a definite decrease in the rate of increase, which tells us that there is a letting up of the letdown. Obviously, if the slowdown should speed up, the decrease in the rate of increase of unemployment would then be an increase in the rate of decrease of employment. In other words the deceleration would be accelerated.

However, many indicators suggest a leveling off or as Wall Street calls it - bumping along the bottom. The cycle usually follows with a gentle pickup, then a faster pickup, a slowdown of the pickup, and ultimately a leveling off of the upturn.

Before the slowdown is completed it is usually hard to tell whether a particular pickup is slow, fast, Chevy, or Ford. At any rate, the environment is right for a pickup this season, especially if you are about 25, unmarried, drive a red Corvette, and make big bucks.

The point is, that much of the statistics and economics analyzed by the Research and Analysis Section can be quite complicated. To help eschew obfuscation we encourage anyone that doesn't understand some of our data to feel free to drop us a line or give us call anytime.

THE COVERED EMPLOYMENT ANNUAL 1981-1983

This Research and Analysis report on average employment (by industry) and average weekly wages is a compilation of data gathered over the last three years from employers covered by the Wyoming Employment Security Law. Approximately 85 percent of Wyoming's labor force is now covered by these Unemployment Insurance Laws. The data consists of a Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) analysis of industries by state and each of the 23 counties.

This edition is particularly interesting because it highlights the profound affect the recession had on Wyoming's employment levels. Identification of certain employment trends in various industries is made easy through the use of pertinent tables and graphs. The following are examples of some things that can be identified by the report.

- —For all industries, total covered employment dropped 10.5 percent or 19,800 between 1981 and 1983.
- —Services, Public Administration, Agriculture, and Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate employment had slight percentage increases from 1981 to 1983.
- —The average weekly wage for all industries went from $329.92 in 1981 to $340.91 in 1983.
- —The Mining industry lost over 10,000 employees, or 26.1 percent between 1981 and 1983.
- —Contract Construction employment declined by 32.4 percent, or nearly 7,400 persons.

COST OF LIVING, THE CPI, AND INFLATION

Each month the Labor Force Trends reprints some information from the Bureau of Labor Statistics' latest Consumer Price Index (CPI). At one time the CPI for the most part was a tool used only by researchers and economists. However, in today's world nearly everyone is concerned with inflation. As a result the CPI has become one of the most frequently used statistics among the thousands generated by the government. Giving indications of changes in prices over time the CPI is used as an escalator in various contracts, leases, and government entitlement programs. Not only does the CPI give an idea of the nation's economic well-being, it also gives individuals a chance to see if their wages are increasing as fast as overall prices.

It is important to remember that the CPI is not a cost-of-living index. It measures only the changes in prices of a constant market basket of goods and services over time. The base year for the CPI is 1967. In other words the market basket (which stays the same over time) previously mentioned cost $100 in 1967. As of November 1984 that same market basket of goods now costs $315.30 See Consumer Price Index Tables.

Along with the index numbers, the Consumer Price Index Tables include percent change figures. These figures are sometimes called inflation rates. This is the figure to be used when measuring the impact inflation has on a consumer's expenditures. For example, the ALL ITEMS part of the November 1984 index shows a four percent average annual change. This means that, on the average, prices in November of 1984 are four percent higher than those in November 1983. Average is an important word here. The reason is that this percent change may be quite high for short periods and then much lower during another part of the year.

The CPI is derived from 85 primary sampling areas from which prices of about 400 items are determined. Included are prices of food, clothing, transportation, housing, insurance, finance, medical services, recreation and others.

There are two national CPI's available. The CPI-W is for wage and clerical workers and covers the buying habits of 40 percent of the population. The CPI-U is for urban consumers and approximates the buying habits of 80 percent of the population. The CPI-U for the nation is the one most often referred to by the media. There are also indices for 28 metropolitan areas and for various regions of the United States.

Take a look at the following annual average percentage increases for the last few years.

1976 = 5.8	1979 = 11.3	1982 = 6.1
1977 = 6.5	1980 = 13.5	1983 = 3.2
1978 = 7.7	1981 = 10.4	1984 = 4.3 (estimate)

Interesting to note is that inflation was double-digit when the country was expanding (1979-1981) and was severly reduced (3.2 percent) during the recession.

Since Wyoming is not populated enough to get a Bureau of Labor Statistics sponsored CPI, the state's department of administration and Fiscal Control (DAFC) prepares a quarterly cost-of-living index along with annual inflation rates. The inflation rates are for the state and five regions that make up the state. Those reports are available from DAFC's Division of Research and Statistics in Cheyenne.

Questions or comments concerning inflation and the Consumer Price Index can be directed to this Research and Analysis Section in Casper.

RECORD NUMBER OF BANKRUPTCIES IN WYOMING

Bankruptcies in Wyoming are being filed in record numbers. For a one-year period from October 1983 thru September 1984 a total of 815 bankruptcies had been filed in the state.

Many court officials and lawyers feel the reason is tied closely to the slowdown in Wyoming's mining industry. According to Wyoming Employment Security Current Employment Statistics (CES), employment in mining fell from 37,500 to 26,500, a drop of 11,000 during this same period.

The slowdown in the mining industry also has secondary effects on small businesses who depend on the miners for a certain amount of income. When times are tough and business has to operate on a reduced profit margin, some may go bankrupt due to ineffective business practices.

High medical costs are another reason for the increased number of filings. In a recent Casper Star Tribune article, Joyce Harris, clerk of the U.S. Bankruptcy Court in Cheyenne said medical bills are the largest single reason individuals and couples seek protection from the court system by taking bankruptcy. Harris speculated that with the downturn in the state's economy many people have lost their jobs, and with those jobs their medical insurance coverage.

Natrona County had both the greatest number of bankruptcies for a one-year period and the highest bankruptcy rate of any county in the state. See Map and Table. With 211 bankruptcies and a rate of approximately 27 bankruptcies per 10,000 population, Natrona County has had some hard times.

Other counties hit with increasing bankruptcies include: Campbell with 68 bankruptcies and a rate of 20.9. Sublette with 11 bankruptcies and a rate of 20.9, and Big Horn with 24 bankruptcies and a rate of 18.4. Although Laramie County had 116 bankruptcies, its rate was less than the statewide rate of 16.5.

At present, approximately 70 bankruptcies are being filed monthly in the state and that could increase or decrease depending on the state's economy. If employment increases, especially in the mining sector, the number of bankruptcies could stabilize.

For a more detailed look at Wyoming's bankruptcies, see Table and Map on bankruptcies.

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX - (1967 = 100)

ALL URBAN

	ALL ITEMS	FOOD	HOUSING	RENT	APPAREL	TRANSP.	MEDICAL
November 1984	315.3	304.1	340.9	254.8	205.2	316.1	387.5
Annual % Change	4.0	4.0	4.3	5.6	2.2	3.2	6.2

WAGE EARNERS AND CLERICAL WORKERS

	ALL ITEMS	FOOD	HOUSING	RENT	APPAREL	TRANSP.	MEDICAL
November 1984	311.9	303.7	334.4	254.0	204.2	318.3	385.6
Annual % Change	3.5	3.8	3.1	5.5	2.3	3.3	6.3

WYOMING LABOR MARKET INFORMATION DIRECTORY

The Wyoming Employment Security Commission is pleased to include a copy of the just completed *Wyoming Labor Market Information Directory* in this edition of the *Trends*. This handy reference guide lists the publications which are available from the Research & Analysis Section. Additional copies are available if requested.

RECENT RESEARCH AND ANALYSIS PUBLICATIONS

- **1985 Wyoming Annual Planning Report;** a comprehensive analysis of labor market developments for the state and its counties.
- **State and County Summary of Covered Employment Annual Report;** gives average employment and average weekly wages by industry for the state and its counties for 1981, 1982, and 1983.
- **Third Quarter 1984 Report of Applicants and Job Openings;** comes from information supplied by Wyoming's 16 Job Service Centers entailing an analysis of job openings and applicants and characteristics of both.
- **Occupational Employment Statistics, Manufacturing and Hospitals in Wyoming: 1983;** based on a sample of these industries, this report identifies the staffing patterns and occupations comprising these industries.
- **The Statistical Review of Wyoming;** not published since the mid-1970's. This 150 page report compiles all the significant data generated by the Wyoming Employment Security Commission from 1939 to 1984.

WYOMING COUNTIES RANKED BY NUMBER OF BANKRUPTCIES ALSO MONTHLY BANKRUPTCY AVERAGE AND BANKRUPTCY RATE

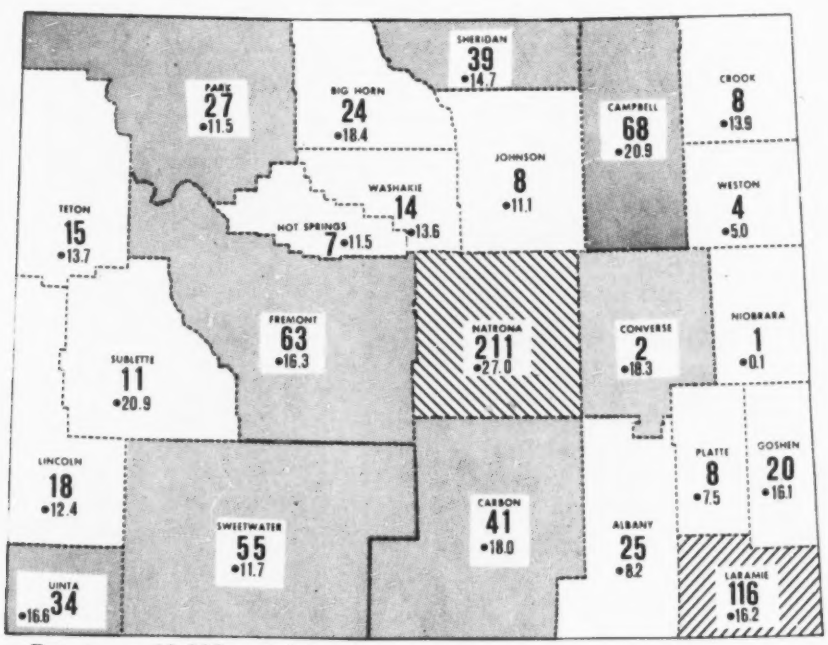
OCTOBER 1983 THRU SEPTEMBER 1984

	Total for Year	Percent of Total	Monthly Average	Rate** Per/10,000 Population
Statewide	845	100.0	70	16.5
Natrona	211	24.9	18	27.0
Laramie	116	13.7	10	16.2
Campbell	68	8.0	6	20.9
Fremont	63	7.5	5	16.3
Sweetwater	55	6.5	5	11.7
Carbon	41	4.9	3	18.0
Sheridan	39	4.6	3	14.7
Uinta	34	4.0	3	16.6
Converse	28	3.3	2	18.3
Park	27	3.2	2	11.5
Albany	25	3.0	2	8.2
Big Horn	24	2.8	2	18.4
Goshen	20	2.4	2	16.1
Lincoln	18	2.1	2	12.4
Teton	15	1.8	1	13.7
Washakie	14	1.7	1	13.6
Sublette	11	1.3	1	20.9
Crook	8	1.0	*	13.9
Johnson	8	1.0	*	11.1
Platte	8	1.0	*	7.5
Hot Springs	7	0.8	*	11.5
Weston	4	0.4	*	5.0
Niobrara	1	0.1	*	3.1

* Less than one per month average.
** Based on 1983 County Census Estimates from the 1980 Census.

NUMBER OF BANKRUPTCIES AND BANKRUPTCY RATE BY COUNTY

October 1983 thru September 1984



• Rate is per 10,000 population.

More than 100 bankruptcies

More than 25, but less than 100

25 or less bankruptcies

Source: U.S. Bankruptcy Court, Cheyenne
Prepared By: Research & Analysis Section, WESC

Table 1

WYOMING ECONOMIC INDICATORS

ITEM	NOV 1984 [1]	OCT 1984 [1]	NOV 1983 [2]	Percent change From A Month Ago	Percent change From A Year Ago
WYOMING EMPLOYMENT DATA					
Total Civilian Labor Force	251,925	254,517	256,314	- 1.0	- 1.7
Unemployment	14,191	13,217	17,434	7.4	- 18.6
Employed Labor Force	237,734	241,300	238,880	- 1.5	- 0.5
a. Covered Employment (Under Wyo. UI Law)[3]	189,100	191,000	190,854	- 1.0	- 0.9
b. Agriculture[3]	11,331	13,175	11,539	- 14.0	- 1.8
Total Unemployment Rate (Wyo.) Seas. Adj.*	5.6% 5.5%*	5.2% 5.8%*	6.8% 6.6%*	XXX	XXX
Total Unemployment Rate (U.S.) Seas. Adj.*	6.9% 7.2%*	7.0% 7.4%*	8.1% 8.4%*	XXX	XXX
Insured Unemployment Rate (Wyo.)[4]	1.8%	1.4%	3.0%	XXX	XXX
HOURS & EARNINGS					
Mining (Production Workers):					
Average Weekly Earnings	$ 568.85	$ 558.11	$ 500.29	1.9	13.7
Average Weekly Hours	42.9	42.8	39.8	0.2	7.8
Average Hourly Earnings	$ 13.26	$ 13.04	$ 12.57	1.7	5.5
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE					
Claims Filed in Local Offices	16,898	14,085	25,103	20.0	- 32.7
a. initial	3,104	2,468	3,967	25.8	- 21.8
Weeks Compensated	11,120	10,460	22,435	6.3	- 50.4
Total Amount Benefits Paid	$ 1,588,035	$ 1,472,168	$ 2,881,170	7.8	- 44.9
Average Weekly Benefit Payment	$ 142.81	$ 140.74	$ 128.42	1.5	11.2
EMPLOYMENT SERVICE					
New Applications Received During Month	3,929	3,184	3,242	23.3	21.2
Non-Ag. Openings Received	3,228	3,214	1,678	0.4	92.4
Non-Ag. Placements	3,064	3,136	2,170	- 2.3	41.2
UNITED STATES DATA					
HOURS & EARNINGS					
Mining (Production Workers):					
Average Weekly Earnings	$ 503.14	$ 496.80	$ 489.06	1.3	2.9
Average Weekly Hours	43.6	43.2	42.9	0.9	1.6
Average Hourly Earnings	$ 11.54	$ 11.50	$ 11.40	0.3	1.2
PRICE INDEXES					
Consumer Price Index 1967 = 100	315.3	315.3	303.1	0.0	4.0
Producer Prices, All Commodities	310.4	309.4	305.5	0.3	1.6
Retail Prices of Food 1967 = 100	304.1	304.4	292.5	- 0.1	4.0

[1] Preliminary. [2] Final. [3] Not Benchmarked to the Current Population Survey. [4] Rate does not include claimants receiving benefits under extended benefit provisions.

WYOMING
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE & UNEMPLOYMENT

Table 2

(Prepared in Cooperation with U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics)

COUNTY	LABOR FORCE					UNEMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT RATE		
	NOV 1984	OCT 1984	NOV 1983	%CHANGE OCT-NOV	%CHANGE NOV-NOV	NOV 1984	OCT 1984	NOV 1983	NOV 1984	OCT 1984	NOV 1983
Statewide	251,925	254,517	256,314	- 1.0	- 1.7	14,191	13,217	17,434	5.6	5.2	6.8
Albany	14,628	14,649	14,577	- 0.1	0.3	524	422	680	3.6	2.9	4.7
Big Horn	5,154	5,243	5,431	- 1.7	- 5.1	306	258	293	5.9	4.9	5.4
Campbell	17,808	18,216	18,738	- 2.2	- 5.0	931	960	933	5.2	5.3	5.0
Carbon	9,276	9,328	10,141	- 0.6	- 8.5	587	528	862	6.3	5.7	8.5
Converse	6,886	6,860	7,263	0.4	- 5.2	423	361	450	6.1	5.3	6.2
Crook	2,976	2,990	3,023	- 0.5	- 1.6	181	126	149	6.1	4.2	4.9
Fremont	17,867	18,236	19,695	- 2.0	- 9.3	1,260	1,316	2,256	7.1	7.2	11.5
Goshen	6,980	7,074	7,074	- 1.3	- 1.3	327	282	351	4.7	4.0	5.0
Hot Springs	3,028	2,988	3,046	1.3	- 0.6	131	113	130	4.3	3.8	4.3
Johnson	4,098	4,255	4,380	- 3.7	- 6.4	152	148	231	3.7	3.5	5.3
Laramie	35,730	35,342	33,022	1.1	8.2	1,681	1,666	2,183	4.7	4.7	6.6
Lincoln	6,154	6,102	5,956	0.9	3.3	552	366	527	9.0	6.0	8.8
Natrona	39,689	39,717	38,703	- 0.1	2.5	2,153	2,055	2,787	5.4	5.2	7.2
Niobrara	1,693	1,785	1,630	- 5.2	3.9	103	124	60	6.1	6.9	3.7
Park	13,008	13,312	13,267	- 2.3	- 2.0	746	560	625	5.7	4.2	4.7
Platte	3,684	3,781	4,065	- 2.6	- 9.4	279	245	373	7.6	6.5	9.2
Sheridan	13,691	14,129	13,993	- 3.1	- 2.2	936	966	1,015	6.8	6.8	7.3
Sublette	2,285	2,272	2,511	0.6	- 9.0	101	55	107	4.4	2.4	4.3
Sweetwater	19,966	20,539	22,340	- 2.8	- 10.6	1,086	1,196	1,739	5.4	5.8	7.8
Teton	7,239	7,291	7,262	- 0.7	- 0.3	768	415	603	10.6	5.7	8.3
Uinta	11,216	11,442	11,011	- 2.0	1.9	554	663	539	4.9	5.8	4.9
Washakie	5,279	5,372	5,436	- 1.7	- 2.9	217	237	307	4.1	4.4	5.6
Weston	3,592	3,590	3,749	0.1	- 4.2	194	154	234	5.4	4.3	6.2

Table 3

NON-FARM WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT IN WYOMING [1]

(Prepared in Cooperation with U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics)

INDUSTRY	EMPLOYMENT (In thousands)			% Change on Total Emp.	
	NOV 1984[2]	OCT 1984[3]	NOV 1983	OCT 1984	NOV 1983
	Total	Total	Total	to NOV 1984	to NOV 1984
WYOMING NON-FARM WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT					
Total Non-Farm Wage & Salary Employment	202.4	205.9	203.0	- 1.7	- 0.3
Manufacturing	9.1	9.4	8.5	- 3.2	7.1
Durable Goods	4.1	4.3	3.8	- 4.7	7.9
Nondurable Goods	5.0	5.1	4.6	- 2.0	8.7
Petroleum & Coal Products	1.2	1.2	1.3	0.0	- 7.7
Total Non-Manufacturing Employment	193.3	196.5	194.5	- 1.6	- 0.6
Mining	26.3	26.4	28.8	- 0.4	- 8.7
Contract Construction	19.2	21.9	16.5	- 12.3	16.4
Transportation & Public Utilities	16.4	16.2	16.4	1.2	0.0
Railroad Transportation	3.1	3.3	3.4	- 6.1	- 8.8
Transportation except Railroads	6.6	6.2	6.1	6.5	8.2
Comm., Elect., Gas & Sani. Serv.	6.7	6.7	6.9	0.0	- 2.9
Wholesale & Retail Trade	44.7	44.2	43.8	1.1	2.1
Wholesale Trade	8.9	8.6	8.8	3.5	1.1
Retail Trade	35.8	35.6	35.0	0.6	2.3
Food Stores	5.2	5.1	5.0	2.0	4.0
Automotive Dealers & Serv. Stat.	6.3	6.2	5.6	1.6	12.5
Eating & Drinking Places	11.9	12.1	12.4	- 1.7	- 4.0
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate	7.6	7.6	7.6	0.0	0.0
Services	28.9	30.2	29.8	- 4.3	- 3.0
Personal Services	2.0	1.9	1.7	5.3	17.6
Medical & Other Health Services	6.3	6.5	6.4	- 3.1	- 1.6
Government	50.2	50.0	51.6	0.4	- 2.7
Federal Government	6.2	6.7	6.8	- 7.5	- 8.8
State & Local Government	44.0	43.3	44.8	1.6	- 1.8
State Government	13.3	12.9	12.9	3.1	3.1
Local Government	30.7	30.4	31.9	1.0	- 3.8

(See Footnotes at End of Table)

NON-FARM WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT IN WYOMING [1]

Table 3 (Cont'd) *(Prepared in Cooperation with U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics)*

INDUSTRY	EMPLOYMENT (In thousands)			% Change on Total Emp.	
	NOV 1984[2]	OCT 1984[3]	NOV 1983	OCT 1984	NOV 1983
	Total	Total	Total	to NOV 1984	to NOV 1984
CASPER (Natrona County)					
TOTAL NON-FARM WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT	35.0	35.5	34.6	- 1.4	1.2
Manufacturing	1.5	1.5	1.3	0.0	15.4
Nondurable Goods	0.9	0.9	0.8	0.0	12.5
Petroleum & Coal Products	0.6	0.6	0.5	0.0	20.0
Total Non-Manufacturing Employment	33.5	34.0	33.3	- 1.5	0.6
Mining	5.2	5.3	4.9	- 1.9	6.1
Oil & Gas Extraction	4.6	4.7	4.4	- 2.1	4.5
Other Mining, Quarrying, etc.	0.6	0.6	0.5	0.0	20.0
Contract Construction	2.5	2.8	2.3	- 10.7	8.7
Transportation & Public Utilities	2.1	2.1	2.4	0.0	- 12.5
Wholesale & Retail Trade	9.8	9.7	9.4	1.0	4.3
Wholesale Trade	3.6	3.5	3.6	2.9	0.0
Retail Trade	6.2	6.2	5.8	0.0	6.9
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate	1.7	1.7	1.7	0.0	0.0
Services	5.6	5.8	5.8	- 3.4	- 3.4
Government	6.6	6.6	6.8	0.0	- 2.9
Federal Government	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.0	0.0
State & Local Government	6.0	6.0	6.2	0.0	- 3.2
CHEYENNE (Laramie County)					
TOTAL NON-FARM WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT	31.3	31.2	29.7	0.3	5.4
Manufacturing	1.0	1.0	1.0	0.0	0.0
Total Non-Manufacturing Employment	30.0	29.8	28.4	0.7	5.6
Contract Construction	2.2	2.2	1.8	0.0	22.2
Transportation & Public Utilities	3.2	3.4	3.7	- 5.9	- 13.5
Wholesale & Retail Trade	7.8	7.5	6.9	4.0	13.0
Wholesale Trade	1.0	0.9	0.8	11.1	25.0
Retail Trade	6.8	6.6	6.1	3.0	11.5
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate	1.8	1.8	1.7	0.0	5.9
Services & Miscellaneous	5.4	5.4	4.8	0.0	12.5
Government	9.6	9.5	9.5	1.1	1.1
Federal Government	2.4	2.4	2.3	0.0	4.3
State & Local Government	7.2	7.1	7.2	1.4	0.0

[1] Estimates include all full and part-time wage and salary workers in non-ag, establishments who worked or received pay during the week which includes the 12th of the month. Proprietors, self-employeds, domestic servants and personnel of the armed forces are excluded. [2] Subject to revision. [3] Revised figures.

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WYOMING LABOR FORCE TRENDS

The *Wyoming Labor Force Trends* is published monthly by the Research and Analysis Section of the Wyoming Employment Security Commission, Dick Sadler, Executive Director.

Please send comments, questions or address changes to Wyoming Employment Security Commission, Research and Analysis Section, P.O. Box 2760, Casper, WY 82602, Ph. (307) 235-3643.

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WYOMING

VOL. 21 NO. 11 DEC. 1984

LABOR FORCE TRENDS

TREND SETTERS

WYOMING	Dec. '84	Nov. '84
Labor Force	252,134	250,461
Employment	235,934	236,274
Unemployment	16,200	14,187
Rate (Raw)	6.4	5.7
Rate (S.A.)	6.3	5.5
Mining Hourly Wage	$13.13	$13.40
Avg. Weekly Hours, Mining	44.4	42.9
USA		
Rate (S.A.)	7.2	7.1
Mining Hourly Wage	$11.68	$11.57
Avg. Weekly Hours, Mining	43.6	43.4
Consumer Price Index		
All Urban 1967 = 100		
U.S. City Avg.	315.5	315.3
Denver (Bimonthly)		349.4
Year Change (U.S.)	+4.0	+4.0

S.A.-Seasonally Adjusted

IN THE UNITED STATES

The number of civilians considered employed increased by 340,000 to 106.3 million in December of 1984. This is according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) of the U.S. Department of Labor. Despite the increase in employment, December's unemployment rate of 7.2 percent was still higher than November's revised rate of 7.1 percent. This reflects the jump from 8.14 million unemployed in November to 8.19 million in December.

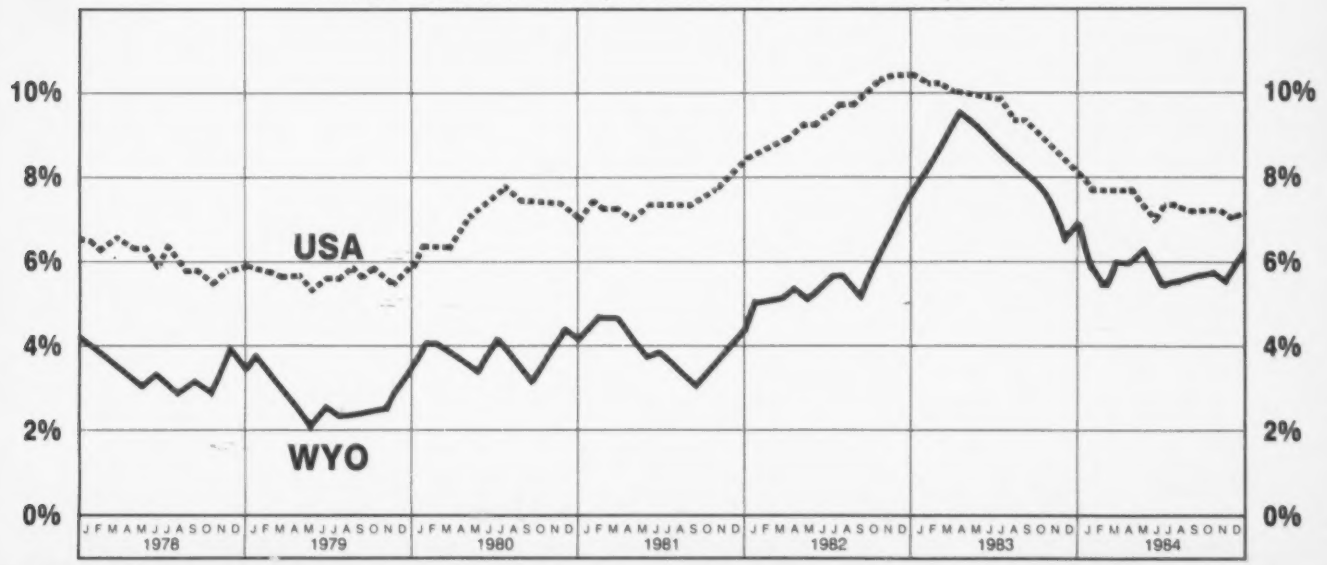
Since the recessionary trough of November 1982, civilian employment has increased by over 7 million people. Understandably then the 106.3 million people in December is a record high.

PRELIMINARY JANUARY RATES

Preliminary national estimates from the BLS for January put the number of unemployed at nearly 8.5 million or 7.4 percent of the labor force. A major reason for the increase over December could be the large number of workers who were laid off from their Christmas jobs.

On the bright side, the number of employed people also increased again to 106.4 million. This continues the trend of the nation setting employment records in almost

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE, WYOMING AND THE U.S. (S.A.)



WYOMING EMPLOYMENT SECURITY COMMISSION, Research & Analysis Section

every month during 1984. Should readers desire an explanation of how both employment and unemployment levels can increase simultaneously, they can contact the Research and Analysis Section and request a copy of the paper "Recent Trends in Wyoming's Unemployment."

WYOMING UNEMPLOYMENT UP IN DECEMBER

Between November and December of 1984 Wyoming's unemployment increased by over 2,000. See Table 2. The total unadjusted unemployment rate went from 5.7 to 6.4 percent. Typically there is an increase in unemployment between these two months, however, it is not usually of this magnitude. These December figures are preliminary estimates. When the final revisions are done it would not be surprising if this initial over-the-month increase of 2,000 unemployed was reduced somewhat.

Wyoming's figures for December 1984 compare favorably with the data from December of 1983. The data shows that there are 2,000 fewer unemployed people during December of 1984 compared to the same month in 1983. This translates to an unemployment rate that is nine-tenths of a percent lower.

Wyoming's seasonally adjusted figures show the same picture as the raw or unadjusted data. December's seasonally adjusted rate of 6.3 percent was 0.8 percent greater than November's, and 0.9 percent less than the December 1983 adjusted rate.

THE COUNTIES

Although the number of unemployed people in Lincoln County didn't even exceed 700, this still represented 11.4 percent of their labor force. See Table 2. Of interest is the fact that Lincoln County's neighbor, Sublette County, had the fewest jobless (91) and the second lowest unemployment rate (4.1%) of all 23 counties. Cold weather almost certainly caused lay-offs in Lincoln County's active heavy construction industry. The lowest unemployment rate for December 1984 was 3.6 percent, in Johnson County.

In terms of high employment rates, Lincoln County was followed by Niobrara, Fremont, and Teton with rates of 9.7, 9.1, and 9.0 percent respectively. Although the rate was only 6.1 percent, Natrona County had the most job seekers, nearly 2,500.

NEIGHBOR'S RATES

The most current information for all states' data is for November 1984. Montana, Idaho, and Utah had higher rates than Wyoming, recording 6.6, 6.4, and 5.9 percent respectively. The three states that had lower rates than Wyoming's 5.7 percent, were Colorado, Nebraska, and South Dakota at 5.5, 4.3, and 4.1 percent respectively.

The states with the lowest November unemployment rates were Massachusetts, at 3.4 percent, and Vermont at 3.9 percent. West Virginia had far and away the highest unemployment rate at 15.6 percent.

EMPLOYMENT, HOURS, AND EARNINGS

In the June 1984 edition of *Trends*, the Current Employment Statistics, or CES program, was explained. Table 3 reprints some of December's preliminary data from CES.

The figures show a decrease of non-farm employment of 3,400. The majority of the decrease was accounted for by layoffs in the construction industry. The severe weather of late November and December will probably hold up many of the large projects until later this spring. It is no coincidence that Lincoln County had the highest unemployment rate, it is the center of several large construction projects.

In addition to employment figures, the CES program also compiles data on hours worked and wages earned for certain industries. Wyoming compiles wage and hour information for the mining and manufacturing industries. This data makes for easy comparisons of Wyoming, other states, and the nation in terms of those variables.

The hours worked data is considered one of the significant economic indicators of this nation's economic situation. Generally, the more goods that need to be produced (economic growth) the longer the work week gets. However, increased hours in the work week doesn't always mean better business conditions. By the same token, shorter work weeks don't necessarily indicate a recessing economy. Seasonal factors are always one important consideration.

In order to meet changing demands for their products, many employers find it more economic in the short term to vary their present employees' number of hours worked than to resort to hiring or laying off. When demand calls for increased production, there is a point at which employers will add workers rather than pay the higher overtime wages.

In Wyoming, manufacturing employs less than 5 percent of the work force, while mining consistently employs around 15 percent. This explains why *Trends* ordinarily publishes the mining data but not the manufacturing. See the Trend Setters box or Table 1. Any *Trends* readers wanting average weekly or hourly earnings as well as average weekly hours worked, may contact the Research and Analysis Section.

THANK YOU PARTICIPATING EMPLOYERS

In the June 1984 *Trends* we used a few paragraphs to explain the nature of the CES program in Wyoming. Because CES depends on a sample of employer's responses, and because our response rate was so low (around 1,500 employers), we made a plea to employers to cooperate with us by filling out the survey form if they could. Through hard work by our CES department and cooperation from emloyers, the sample size has been increased to approximately 2,000. Thanks much to those responding employers. However, there is always room for improvement and we are still attempting to meet Bureau of Labor Statistics standards. Because this information can be useful to business we still want to encourage anyone receiving survey forms from the Research and Analysis Section to **please take ten minutes to fill them out and return them.**

PERSONAL INCOME, THIRD QUARTER 1984

According to the Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA) of the U.S. Commerce Department, the Rocky Mountain Region's increase of 1.6 percent in non-farm personal income from second quarter to third quarter of 1984 was the least of the nation's eight regions. However, Wyoming's increase of 2.6 percent was sixth highest among all states. Payroll increases in manufacturing, construction, mining, and government were well above the national

average. The nation's average increase over-the-quarter was 2.0 percent. Third quarter 1983 compared to third quarter 1984 showed a U.S. increase of 10.2 percent in personal income. The Rocky Mountain Region increased by 9.7 percent and Wyoming increased by 10.1 percent over-the-year.

PRE AND POST RECESSION EMPLOYMENT COMPARISONS

The three major employment and wage surveys conducted within the Research and Analysis Section are the report of Covered Employment and Wages (ES-202), based on actual employer reports; the Current Employment Statistics Survey (CES), based on a monthly employer survey; and the Local Area Unemployment Statistics report (LAUS), which is a complex statistical system for estimating employment and unemployment.

There are differences in the concepts, definitions and data used in these surveys, but they all track employment and unemployment levels and continuously monitor these trends.

Wyoming's unemployment rates during 1979 were often among the lowest in the nation, and in November 1982 the national recession finally bottomed out when unemployment hit its highest level. However, it took Wyoming's unemployment until April of 1983 to reach its peak.

Casper has yet to recover from the recession to the extent that for instance, Cheyenne or the rest of the state has. The following set of employment figures, taken from the three different employment and wage surveys, shows consistently, that Casper continues to lag the state and Cheyenne following the recession. It should be remembered, that the LAUS program involves many more estimates and does include full estimates for agriculture.

WYOMING EMPLOYMENT

	June 1979	June 1984	Percent Change
LAUS			
Statewide	232,673	256,180	10.1
Casper	38,559	38,009	- 1.4
Cheyenne	30,540	35,092	14.9
ES-202			
Statewide	194,472	196,756	1.2
Casper	37,648	33,725	- 10.4
Cheyenne	25,944	27,473	5.9
CES			
Statewide	208,200	207,200	- 0.4
Casper	39,100	34,300	- 12.3
Cheyenne	30,200	31,000	2.6

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX - (1967 = 100)

ALL URBAN

	ALL ITEMS	FOOD	HOUSING	RENT	APPAREL	TRANSP.	MEDICAL
December 1984	315.5	305.1	341.2	256.1	203.2	315.8	388.5
Annual % Change	4.0	3.8	4.2	5.8	2.0	3.1	6.1

WAGE EARNERS AND CLERICAL WORKERS

	ALL ITEMS	FOOD	HOUSING	RENT	APPAREL	TRANSP.	MEDICAL
December 1984	312.2	304.7	335.0	255.3	202.1	317.9	386.7
Annual % Change	3.5	3.6	3.3	5.8	2.0	3.1	6.1

RECENT RESEARCH AND ANALYSIS PUBLICATIONS

- **1985 Wyoming Annual Planning Report;** a comprehensive analysis of labor market developments for the state and its counties.
- **State and County Summary of Covered Employment Annual Report;** gives average employment and average weekly wages by industry for the state and its counties for 1981, 1982, and 1983.
- **Third Quarter 1984 Report of Applicants and Job Openings;** comes from information supplied by Wyoming's 16 Job Service Centers entailing an analysis of job openings and applicants and characteristics of both.
- **Occupational Employment Statistics, Manufacturing and Hospitals in Wyoming: 1983;** based on a sample of these industries, this report identifies the staffing patterns and occupations comprising these industries.
- **The Statistical Review of Wyoming;** not published since the mid-1970's. This 150 page report compiles all the significant data generated by the Wyoming Employment Security Commission from 1939 to 1984.

Table 1

WYOMING ECONOMIC INDICATORS

ITEM	DEC 1984 [1]	NOV 1984 [1]	DEC 1983 [2]	Percent change From A Month Ago	Percent change From A Year Ago
WYOMING EMPLOYMENT DATA					
Total Civilian Labor Force	252,134	250,461	249,541	0.7	1.0
Unemployment	16,200	14,187	18,178	14.2	10.9
Employed Labor Force	235,934	236,274	231,363	- 0.1	2.0
a. Covered Employment (Under Wyo. UI Law)[3]	191,000	189,100	188,972	1.0	1.1
b. Agriculture[3]	10,085	11,331	10,270	- 11.0	- 1.8
Total Unemployment Rate (Wyo.) Seas. Adj.*	6.4% 6.3%*	5.7% 5.5%*	7.3% 7.2%*	XXX	XXX
Total Unemployment Rate (U.S.) Seas. Adj.*	7.0% 7.2%*	6.9% 7.1%*	8.0% 8.2%*	XXX	XXX
Insured Unemployment Rate (Wyo.)[4]	1.8%	1.8%	3.5%	XXX	XXX
HOURS & EARNINGS					
Mining (Production Workers):					
Average Weekly Earnings	$ 582.97	$ 574.86	$ 552.11	1.4	5.6
Average Weekly Hours	44.4	42.9	43.1	3.5	3.0
Average Hourly Earnings	$ 13.13	$ 13.40	$ 12.81	- 2.0	2.5
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE					
Claims Filed in Local Offices	17,727	16,898	34,075	4.9	- 48.0
a. Initial	2,665	3,104	3,575	- 14.1	- 25.5
Weeks Compensated	14,194	11,120	30,272	27.6	- 53.1
Total Amount Benefits Paid	$ 2,050,745	$ 1,588,035	$ 3,884,906	29.1	- 47.2
Average Weekly Benefit Payment	$ 144.48	$ 142.81	$ 128.33	1.2	12.6
EMPLOYMENT SERVICE					
New Applications Received During Month	2,572	3,929	3,409	- 34.5	- 24.6
Non-Ag. Openings Received	2,213	3,228	1,566	- 31.4	41.3
Non-Ag. Placements	2,131	3,064	2,269	30.5	- 6.1
UNITED STATES DATA					
HOURS & EARNINGS					
Mining (Production Workers):					
Average Weekly Earnings	$ 509.25	$ 502.14	$ 495.19	1.4	2.8
Average Weekly Hours	43.6	43.4	43.4	0.5	0.5
Average Hourly Earnings	$ 11.68	$ 11.57	$ 11.41	1.0	2.4
PRICE INDEXES					
Consumer Price Index 1967 = 100	315.5	315.5	303.5	0.1	4.0
Producer Prices, All Commodities	309.9	309.4	306.0	0.2	1.3
Retail Prices of Food 1967 = 100	305.1	304.1	293.9	0.3	3.8

[1] Preliminary. [2] Final. [3] Not Benchmarked to the Current Population Survey. [4] Rate does not include claimants receiving benefits under extended benefit provisions.

WYOMING
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE & UNEMPLOYMENT

Table 2

(Prepared in Cooperation with U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics)

COUNTY	LABOR FORCE					UNEMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT RATE		
	DEC 1984	NOV 1984	DEC 1983	%CHANGE NOV-DEC	%CHANGE DEC-DEC	DEC 1984	NOV 1984	DEC 1983	DEC 1984	NOV 1984	DEC 1983
Statewide	252,134	250,461	249,541	0.7	1.0	16,200	14,187	18,178	6.4	5.7	7.3
Albany	14,660	14,381	14,410	1.9	1.7	716	521	785	4.9	3.6	5.4
Big Horn	4,992	5,082	5,153	- 1.8	- 3.1	365	305	296	7.3	6.0	5.7
Campbell	17,428	17,839	17,853	- 2.3	- 2.4	961	931	964	5.5	5.2	5.4
Carbon	9,179	9,291	9,760	- 1.2	- 6.0	680	592	908	7.4	6.4	9.3
Converse	6,818	6,781	7,082	0.5	- 3.7	533	424	531	7.8	6.3	7.5
Crook	2,903	2,936	2,892	- 1.1	0.4	195	180	154	6.7	6.1	5.3
Fremont	18,206	17,896	19,199	1.7	- 5.2	1,655	1,260	2,277	9.1	7.0	11.9
Goshen	6,938	6,880	6,866	0.8	1.0	361	329	373	5.2	4.8	5.4
Hot Springs	2,973	2,978	2,926	- 0.2	1.6	146	131	103	4.9	4.4	3.5
Johnson	4,045	4,033	4,373	0.3	- 7.5	146	151	318	3.6	3.7	7.3
Laramie	35,822	35,669	32,772	0.4	9.3	1,900	1,686	2,535	5.3	4.7	7.7
Lincoln	6,117	6,063	5,782	0.9	5.8	695	551	578	11.4	9.1	10.0
Natrona	40,996	39,844	37,516	2.9	9.3	2,493	2,154	2,787	6.1	5.4	7.4
Niobrara	1,645	1,671	1,522	- 1.6	8.1	159	103	67	9.7	6.2	4.4
Park	12,912	12,807	12,782	0.8	1.0	798	744	582	6.2	5.8	4.6
Platte	3,685	3,691	3,998	- 0.2	- 7.8	300	279	417	8.2	7.5	10.4
Sheridan	13,658	13,485	13,819	1.3	- 1.2	1,146	934	1,166	8.4	6.9	8.4
Sublette	2,209	2,254	2,413	- 2.0	- 8.5	91	100	116	4.1	4.4	4.8
Sweetwater	19,827	19,991	21,465	- 0.8	- 7.6	1,156	1,088	1,580	5.8	5.4	7.4
Teton	7,245	7,131	7,197	1.6	0.7	653	767	566	9.0	10.8	7.9
Uinta	11,045	11,024	10,672	0.2	3.5	619	550	507	5.6	5.0	4.8
Washakie	5,242	5,198	5,369	0.8	- 2.4	237	215	341	4.5	4.1	6.4
Weston	3,590	3,535	3,720	1.6	- 3.5	196	192	227	5.5	5.4	6.1

The ESC wishes to stress that the data contained in this table are only estimates. The data for the current month is a preliminary estimate and will be revised next month, and revised yet again in about one year. On an annual average basis, the accuracy of these estimates may vary from the actual figures by as much as eight percent, plus or minus.

Table 3

NON-FARM WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT IN WYOMING [1]

(Prepared in Cooperation with U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics)

INDUSTRY	EMPLOYMENT (In thousands)			% Change on Total Emp.	
	DEC 1984[2]	NOV 1984[3]	DEC 1983	NOV 1984	DEC 1983
	Total	Total	Total	to DEC 1984	to DEC 1984
WYOMING NON-FARM WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT					
Total Non-Farm Wage & Salary Employment	197.4	200.8	202.9	- 1.7	- 2.7
Manufacturing	9.0	9.1	8.2	- 1.1	9.8
Durable Goods	4.0	4.1	3.6	- 2.4	11.1
Nondurable Goods	5.0	5.0	4.6	0.0	8.7
Petroleum & Coal Products	1.2	1.2	1.3	0.0	- 7.7
Total Non-Manufacturing Employment	188.4	191.7	194.7	- 1.7	- 3.2
Mining	26.7	26.2	28.9	1.9	- 7.6
Contract Construction	15.3	18.1	16.2	15.5	- 5.6
Transportation & Public Utilities	16.4	16.6	16.3	- 1.2	0.6
Railroad Transportation	3.1	3.3	3.3	- 6.1	- 6.1
Transportation except Railroads	6.6	6.6	6.1	0.0	8.2
Comm., Elect., Gas & Sani. Serv.	6.7	6.7	6.9	0.0	- 2.9
Wholesale & Retail Trade	43.9	44.4	44.3	- 1.1	- 0.9
Wholesale Trade	8.9	8.9	8.9	0.0	0.0
Retail Trade	35.0	35.5	35.4	- 1.4	- 1.1
Food Stores	5.0	5.1	4.9	- 2.0	2.0
Automotive Dealers & Serv. Stat.	5.8	6.1	5.7	- 4.9	1.8
Eating & Drinking Places	11.1	11.6	12.3	- 4.3	- 9.8
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate	7.6	7.6	7.6	0.0	0.0
Services	28.6	29.0	30.0	- 1.4	- 4.7
Personal Services	1.9	2.0	1.7	- 5.0	11.8
Medical & Other Health Services	6.3	6.3	6.4	0.0	1.6
Government	49.9	49.8	51.4	0.2	- 2.9
Federal Government	6.2	6.2	6.5	0.0	- 4.6
State & Local Government	43.7	43.6	44.9	0.2	- 2.7
State Government	12.8	12.8	13.0	0.0	- 1.5
Local Government	30.9	30.8	31.9	0.3	- 3.1

(See Footnotes at End of Table)

NON-FARM WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT IN WYOMING [1]

Table 3 (Cont'd)

INDUSTRY	EMPLOYMENT (In thousands)			% Change on Total Emp.	
	DEC 1984[2]	NOV 1984[3]	DEC 1983	NOV 1984	DEC 1983
	Total	Total	Total	to DEC 1984	to DEC 1984
CASPER (Natrona County)					
TOTAL NON-FARM WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT	35.2	35.1	34.6	0.3	1.7
Manufacturing	1.5	1.5	1.3	0.0	15.4
Nondurable Goods	0.9	0.9	0.8	0.0	12.5
Petroleum & Coal Products	0.6	0.6	0.5	0.0	20.0
Total Non-Manufacturing Employment	33.7	33.6	33.3	0.3	1.2
Mining	5.2	5.2	4.9	0.0	6.1
Oil & Gas Extraction	4.6	4.6	4.4	0.0	4.5
Other Mining, Quarrying, etc.	0.6	0.6	0.5	0.0	20.0
Contract Construction	2.5	2.6	2.3	- 3.8	8.7
Transportation & Public Utilities	2.1	2.1	2.4	0.0	- 12.5
Wholesale & Retail Trade	9.9	9.8	9.4	1.0	5.3
Wholesale Trade	3.8	3.6	3.6	5.6	5.6
Retail Trade	6.1	6.2	5.8	- 1.6	5.2
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate	1.7	1.7	1.7	0.0	0.0
Services	5.5	5.6	5.8	- 1.8	- 5.2
Government	6.8	6.6	6.8	3.0	0.0
Federal Government	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.0	0.0
State & Local Government	6.2	6.0	6.2	3.3	0.0
CHEYENNE (Laramie County)					
TOTAL NON-FARM WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT	30.5	31.2	29.7	- 2.2	2.7
Manufacturing	1.0	1.0	1.0	0.0	0.0
Total Non-Manufacturing Employment	29.5	30.2	28.7	- 2.3	2.8
Contract Construction	1.9	2.0	1.8	- 5.0	5.6
Transportation & Public Utilities	3.1	3.4	3.7	- 8.8	- 16.2
Wholesale & Retail Trade	7.5	7.7	6.9	- 2.6	8.7
Wholesale Trade	0.9	0.9	0.8	0.0	12.5
Retail Trade	6.6	6.8	6.1	- 2.9	8.2
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate	1.8	1.8	1.7	0.0	5.9
Services & Miscellaneous	5.3	5.4	4.8	- 1.9	10.4
Government	9.6	9.5	9.5	1.1	0.0
Federal Government	2.4	2.4	2.3	0.0	4.3
State & Local Government	7.2	7.1	7.2	1.4	0.0

[1] Estimates include all full and part-time wage and salary workers in non-ag. establishments who worked or received pay during the week which includes the 12th of the month. Proprietors, self-employeds, domestic servants and personnel of the armed forces are excluded. [2] Subject to revision. [3] Revised figures.

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WYOMING LABOR FORCE TRENDS

The *Wyoming Labor Force Trends* is published monthly by the Research and Analysis Section of the Wyoming Employment Security Commission, Dick Sadler, Executive Director.

Please send comments, questions or address changes to Wyoming Employment Security Commission, Research and Analysis Section, P.O. Box 2760, Casper, WY 82602, Ph. (307) 235-3643.

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S8895-1

WYOMING

VOL. 22 NO. 1 JAN. 1985

LABOR FORCE TRENDS

TREND SETTERS

WYOMING	Jan. '85	Dec. '84
Labor Force	237,697	244,119
Employment	220,105	230,356
Unemployment	17,592	13,763
Rate (Raw)	7.4	5.6
Rate (S.A.)	6.4	5.6
Mining Hourly Wage	$13.40	$13.44
Avg. Weekly Hours, Mining	42.8	43.8
USA		
Rate (S.A.)	7.4	7.2
Mining Hourly Wage	$11.69	$11.64
Avg. Weekly Hours, Mining	42.5	44.2
Consumer Price Index		
All Urban 1967 = 100		
U.S. City Avg.	316.1	315.5
Denver (Bimonthly)	350.6	
Year Change (U.S.)	+3.6	+4.0

S.A.-Seasonally Adjusted

In this issue of *Trends* be sure to see these articles:

— The Best and the Worst
— Labor Force, 1984—A Review
— Dispersion Chart of Some Economic Changes in Wyoming
— Wealth in the U.S.A. and Wyoming
— Annual Average Rates for 1984

IN THE U.S.A.

According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics both employment and unemployment rose during the first month of 1985. The civilian seasonally adjusted unemployment rate went from 7.2 percent in December to 7.4 percent in January. While employment rose an estimated 118,000 the number of unemployed increased by approximately 293,000 over-the-month.

The number of unemployed people in the United States totaled 8.5 million in January. The number of employed persons in that same month was estimated to be 106.4 million. According to both the establishment (CES) survey and the household survey (CPS) employment has grown by 7.3 million persons since the bottom of the recession in November of 1982.

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE, WYOMING AND THE U.S. (S.A.)

WYOMING EMPLOYMENT SECURITY COMMISSION, Research & Analysis Section

U.S. FEBRUARY ESTIMATES JUST OUT

Seasonally adjusted data for the U.S. shows that the nation had 106.7 million persons working during February. The 7.3 percent unemployment rate means that 8.4 million people were unemployed.

STATE'S RATES INCREASE AGAIN

Preliminary January Unemployment in Wyoming totalled nearly 17,600. See Table 2. The unadjusted unemployment rate of 7.4 percent was a significant increase over December's revised rate of 5.6 percent. Trends for the last several years indicate that increases in unemployment between December and January are expected. Cold weather and post holiday season layoffs probably contributed to this greater than average increase in unemployment.

The seasonally adjusted data reflects the same picture as the raw figures although not to the same extent. The adjusted rate went from 5.6 percent in December to 6.4 percent in January. A look at Table 1 shows that despite increases from the previous month, the unemployment rates of January 1985 are considerably lower than the rates recorded in January of 1984.

COUNTY INFO

While no counties had double-digit unemployemnt rates in December of 1984, Table 2 shows that Niobrara, Lincoln, Fremont, and Sheridan counties all had rates over ten percent in January of 1985.

An interesting point is that while Niobrara County's unemployment rate was 12.8 percent, there were only 178 people considered unemployed in that area. This compares to Natrona County which had over 2,600 persons unemployed which was only 6.9 percent of its labor force. Note that together the Cheyenne and Casper areas had over 4,800 people considered unemployed. Despite the fact that this constituted nearly 28 percent of the state's January total number unemployed, both counties had unemployment rates that were markedly lower than the overall statewide rate of 7.4 percent.

Crook, Hot Springs, Niobrara, and Sublette Counties all had fewer than 200 persons unemployed. The following counties had unemployment rates which were lower than six percent: Albany, Goshen, Hot Springs, Johnson, Washakie, and Weston.

SURROUNDING STATES

The following figures are preliminary December 1984 rates that are yet to be revised. The reason the unrevised figures are used is so that Wyoming's situation can be compared to its neighboring states, who like Wyoming, are just now sending their revisions to the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Idaho and Montana had higher rates than Wyoming recording 7.3 and 7.0 percent respectively. The four states that had lower rates than Wyoming's 6.4 percent were Utah, Colorado, Nebraska, and South Dakota at 6.3, 5.9, 5.0, and 4.7 percent respectively.

Arizona, Vermont, and New Hampshire had the lowest December 1984 rates in the U.S. recording 4.4, 4.3, and 4.1 percent respectively. The state of West Virginia once again had the highest unemployment rate in the nation by a wide margin recording a figure of 15.6 percent in December.

ESTABLISHMENT DATA

The results of this state's Current Employment Statistics program are printed in part on Table 3. This information is called establishment data because it is the survey results of a randomly selected sample of business establishments operating in Wyoming.

While it appears the Construction industry lost around 7,000 workers over-the-month, Services gained 1,100 and Finance, Insurance and Real Estate gained 500. A glance of total nonfarm employment shows that employment decreases outnumbered increases by 9,000. This follows the seasonal trends exhibited by the other Employment Security Research and Analysis Section programs.

The precipitous drop in construction employment is the result of a couple of different factors. In addition to the expected seasonal layoffs was the annual Bureau of Labor Statistics benchmarking and revision procedures. Assuming consistent historical relationships, labor force and employment figures (especially in construction) will be increasing continually from February through June.

LABOR FORCE, 1984—A REVIEW

By this time it should be no secret to any Wyoming resident that the state's overall economic condition remained flat during 1984, following the pounding it took during the previous year. Bankruptcies were up, business failures continued and employment layoffs remained commonplace.

Looking at just the state's labor force statistics reflects this same sullen picture. Indeed, one would have to go back three years to find an annual average labor force lower than the 254,000 recorded in 1984. In 1981, economic activity was nearly at its' peak, with an average labor force of 251,000, of which 241,000 were employed. In 1982, the average employed labor force held this peak level at 241,000—but then came the bust.

Unemployment began to show an increase in October of 1981, and it continued to increase in almost every single month in 1982 to register an annual average of 15,000 jobless each month—a 50 percent increase in one year. But the worst was yet to come. Not until May of 1983 did monthly unemployment show its first real decline in some 20 consecutive months—down to a staggering 23,900. By year's end, unemployment showed an annual average of 22,000 per month—nearly another 50 percent increase from 1982—the highest average unemployment in the state's history.

So what about 1984? Employment Security Commission records, during the early months of 1984, indicated a loss of jobs statewide, from the same months of 1983, as much as 22,000. These were *jobs* lost, based on payroll records, not estimates.

Average unemployment in 1984 was down from 1983 by more than 27 percent, to 16,000. Unfortunately the average employed labor force was also down from 1983 by nearly one percent, to 238,000, and that was down from the 1982 annual average of 241,000.

As Wyoming jobseekers began running out of unemployment insurance benefits, about mid-1983, they started leaving the state by the thousands. This is evident from the unemployment rate, which declined steadily early in 1984 and did not show a significant increase until November and December. The annual average unemployment rate in 1984 was 6.3 percent, compared to 8.4 percent in 1983, but nearly all this decline is attributable to out-migration.

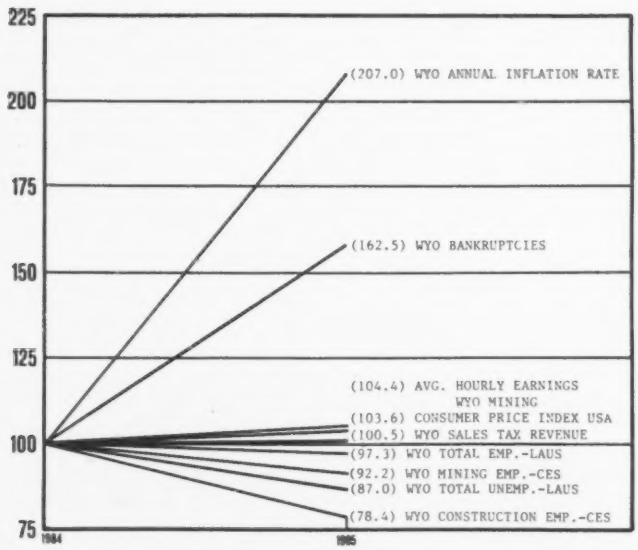
The Census Bureau estimates that Wyoming was one of only three states that had actual population decreases between July of 1983 and July of 1984.

The 1984 employment and unemployment trends returned to near normal seasonal patterns during the year, which suggests at least, that the state's economy has begun to stabilize. We will not attempt to project what 1985 holds in store, but hopefully the new heavy construction projects in various parts of the state will aid in relieving at least a portion of our state's economic discomforts. Almost certainly, it will be quite some time, years perhaps, before we are returned to the robust economic vigor we enjoyed at the beginning of the decade.

SOME ECONOMIC CHANGES IN WYOMING

January 1984 to January 1985

Percent of 1984



Prepared by Research & Analysis, February 1985.

DISPERSION CHART

A dispersion chart is shown above. The change over a single interval of time is compared for many different items. The value of each item in the last year is stated as a percent of the value in the base year. In this particular graph, both the percent change and the name of the item are shown to the right of the line. The following is a brief explanation of each of these items.

Wyoming's Annual Inflation Rate - From January 1984 to January 1985, the Department of Administration and Fiscal Control's Statewide Annual Inflation Rate for all items, went from 1.42 percent to 2.94 percent. Because the rate is expressed as one or two percent, the change in these small numbers will be represented by a comparatively steeper line on the graph.

Wyoming Bankruptcies - The number of bankruptcies in Wyoming for January 1984 was 56 which is 35 less than the 91 which occurred in January of 1985. This is according to the U.S. Bankruptcy Court in Cheyenne.

Average Hourly Earnings of Wyoming's Mining Industry - According to the Wyoming Employment Security Current Employment Statistics (CES) mining employees were making an average hourly wage of $13.40 during January of 1985. This is an increase of .57¢ from the January 1984 figure of $12.83.

Consumer Price Index, U.S. - The Bureau of Labor Statistics Consumer Price Index, for all urban consumers, went from 305.2 in January 1984 to 316.1 in January 1985.

Wyoming Sales Tax Revenue - Sales tax revenues were much the same from January 1984 to Janaury 1985. According to the Wyoming Department of Revenue, Sales and Use Tax Division, total sales tax revenue went from $19,033,602 to $19,121,244 over-the-year.

Wyoming Total Employment - Based on the Wyoming Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS) program, total employment in Wyoming fell by over 6,000 workers from 226,124 in January 1984 to 220,105 in January 1985.

Wyoming Mining Employment - Employment in mining lost 2,200 workers during 1984. According to the Wyoming CES program, mining went from 28,300 in January 1984 to 26,100 in January 1985.

Wyoming Total Unemployment - Wyoming's total unemployment dropped 2,621 based on LAUS estimates. Figures for January 1984 and January 1985 were 20,213 and 17,592 respectively.

Wyoming Construction Employment - Construction employment, according to CES data went from 11,100 in January 1984 to 8,700 in January of 1985. This is a drop of 2,400 in a crucial Wyoming industry.

THE BEST AND THE WORST

Wyoming is a state with much diversity, and this becomes quite evident when you look at the wide range of unemployment rates by county for 1984. Out of 23 counties, each with its own economic mix, two can be singled out as having the best and the worst unemployment rates.

Fremont County had a 1984 annual average unemployment rate of 10.6 percent, the worst in the state. Major layoffs in the uranium industry and at the U.S. Steel iron ore mine at Atlantic City (530 employees) were the main causes. Workers who lost their jobs in retail trade, services, and construction, due to the effects of the major mining layoffs, are also a piece of the puzzle.

In 1984, Fremont residents saw their rate go from 15.8 percent in February to 6.8 percent in November. When compared to the statewide annual average rate of 6.3 percent, Fremont County has seen some hard times. However, the rate could have gone higher had it not been for some of the more stabilized employers

such as the tourism industry, the Wyoming State Training School, and Central Wyoming College.

On the other side of the coin, Albany County had an annual average unemployment rate in 1984 of 4.4 percent, well below the statewide average of 6.3 percent, and the lowest rate of any county in the state.

Since 1983, growth in Albany County has been relatively uniform, devoid of the wide fluctuations that have characterized other parts of the state. Because the Albany County economy is not strongly influenced by the mineral industries' activities, it is less subject to the "boom and bust" cycles that have appeared elsewhere. Mining employment for the state accounts for about 14 percent of total employment. Albany County has less than one half percent of its work force employed in mining.

The presence of the University of Wyoming as a major employer has been an important stabilizing factor. The University employs around 2,500 full-time employees which is approximately 22 percent of the county's employment. Retail Trade, is another big employer and important stabilizing factor. Dependent on the University's students and staff, retail trade involved approximately 23 percent of the county's employment.

In the future, both counties will continue in the same directions. Fremont County will look toward an increased demand for iron ore and uranium, which will probably not come for several years. Albany County's stable economy will be strongly tied to government and college enrollment.

ANNUAL AVERAGE RATES FOR 1984

The Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) has recently released the 1984 annual average unemployment rates for all states. The national annual average unemployment rate in 1984 was 7.5 percent, which was significantly lower than the 1983 rate of 9.6 percent. It is no surprise then that all states had an over-the-year decrease in their annual average unemployment rates. During the year there was an average of 8.5 million people considered unemployed. This was 2.2 million fewer unemployed than the year before.

Wyoming's 1984 rate was 6.3 percent which was a good deal lower than the 7.5 percent U.S. rate. There were 19 states which had lower unmeployment rates than Wyoming during 1984. This is a different picture from the one seen in 1979 and 1980, when Wyoming's unemployment rates were 2.8 and 4.0 percent, the lowest in the country. Already mentioned was the fact that Wyoming's average number unemployed in 1984 was 16,000 while employment averaged 238,000, making for a total labor force average of 254,000 for the year.

WEALTH IN THE U.S.A. AND WYOMING

The Internal Revenue Service (IRS) has recently published net worth figures that reveal that the United States had nearly 407,700 millionaires in 1982. This is more than twice the 1976 figure of approximately 180,000. One important reason for the huge increase is the effects of inflation. A million dollars in 1982 was worth around $640,000 back in 1976.

Of the nearly 408,000 millionaires in the nation, Wyoming had a mere 1,300 or 0.3 percent of the total. However, when populations of the various states are taken into consideration, Wyoming's situation is an enviable one.

Other IRS figures showed the number of people in each state with gross assets of $500,000 or more. Again in the terms of sheer numbers, Wyoming ranked very low when compared to the other states. However, when based on the share of the population, Wyoming ranked fourth among all states as the following table shows.

THE TOP TEN STATES WHERE PEOPLE WITH GROSS ASSETS MAKE UP THE BIGGEST SHARES OF THE POPULATION*

RANK	STATE	NO. OF PEOPLE PER 1,000 WITH GROSS ASSETS OVER $500,000
1	North Dakota	24
2	Nebraska	19
3	Iowa	18
4	Wyoming	17
5	Montana	16
6	Connecticut	16
7	Florida	15
8	Texas	13
9	Arizona	13
10	California	12

*Reprinted from U.S. News and World Report, March 18, 1985

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX - (1967 = 100)

ALL URBAN

	ALL ITEMS	FOOD	HOUSING	RENT	APPAREL	TRANSP.	MEDICAL
January 1985	316.1	307.3	342.0	257.1	199.8	314.7	391.0
Annual % Change	3.6	2.6	3.9	5.8	1.7	2.8	5.8

WAGE EARNERS AND CLERICAL WORKERS

	ALL ITEMS	FOOD	HOUSING	RENT	APPAREL	TRANSP.	MEDICAL
January 1985	312.6	306.9	335.7	256.3	198.5	316.7	389.3
Annual % Change	3.3	2.5	3.4	5.8	1.6	2.9	5.9

RECENT RESEARCH AND ANALYSIS PUBLICATIONS

- **1985 Wyoming Annual Planning Report;** a comprehensive analysis of labor market developments for the state and its counties.
- **State and County Summary of Covered Employment Annual Report;** gives average employment and average weekly wages by industry for the state and its counties for 1981, 1982, and 1983.
- **Fourth Quarter 1984 Report of Applicants and Job Openings;** comes from information supplied by Wyoming's 16 Job Service Centers entailing an analysis of job openings and applicants and characteristics of both.
- **Occupational Employment Statistics, Manufacturing and Hospitals in Wyoming: 1983;** based on a sample of these industries, this report identifies the staffing patterns and occupations comprising these industries.
- **The Statistical Review of Wyoming;** not published since the mid-1970's, this 150 page report compiles all the significant data generated by the Wyoming Employment Security Commission from 1939 to 1984.
- **Wyoming Occupational Outlook;** just released, this report projects industry and occupational growth in Wyoming up to 1990. It also provides information concerning the number of expected job openings in many occupations.

Table 1

WYOMING ECONOMIC INDICATORS

ITEM	JAN 1985 [1]	DEC 1984 [1]	JAN 1984 [2]	Percent change From A Month Ago	Percent change From A Year Ago
WYOMING EMPLOYMENT DATA					
Total Civilian Labor Force	237,697	244,119	246,337	- 2.6	- 3.5
Unemployment	17,592	13,763	20,213	27.8	- 13.0
Employed Labor Force	220,105	230,356	226,124	- 4.5	- 2.7
a. Covered Employment (Under Wyo. UI Law)[3]	182,000	191,000	181,530	- 4.7	0.3
b. Agriculture[3]	7,866	10,085	8,011	- 22.0	- 1.8
Total Unemployment Rate (Wyo.) Seas. Adj.*	7.4% 6.4%*	5.6% 5.6%*	8.2% 7.1%*	XXX	XXX
Total Unemployment Rate (U.S.) Seas. Adj.*	8.0% 7.4%*	7.0% 7.2%*	8.8% 8.0%*	XXX	XXX
Insured Unemployment Rate (Wyo.)[4]	2.6%	1.8%	3.8%	XXX	XXX
HOURS & EARNINGS					
Mining (Production Workers):					
Average Weekly Earnings	$ 573.52	$ 588.67	$ 537.58	- 2.6	6.7
Average Weekly Hours	42.8	43.8	41.9	- 2.3	2.1
Average Hourly Earnings	$ 13.40	$ 13.44	$ 12.83	- 0.3	4.4
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE					
Claims Filed in Local Offices	29,805	17,727	34,358	68.1	- 13.2
a. Initial	5,774	2,665	4,529	116.7	27.4
Weeks Compensated	14,412	14,194	35,511	1.5	59.4
Total Amount Benefits Paid	$ 2,905,535	$ 2,050,745	$ 3,719,532	41.7	- 21.9
Average Weekly Benefit Payment	$ 147.06	$ 144.48	$ 127.44	1.8	15.4
EMPLOYMENT SERVICE					
New Applications Received During Month	3,525	2,572	3,613	37.1	- 2.4
Non-Ag. Openings Received	1,920	2,213	1,492	- 13.2	28.7
Non-Ag. Placements	1,711	2,131	1,814	- 19.7	- 5.7
UNITED STATES DATA					
HOURS & EARNINGS					
Mining (Production Workers):					
Average Weekly Earnings	$ 496.83	$ 514.49	$ 499.68	- 3.4	- 0.6
Average Weekly Hours	42.5	44.2	43.3	- 3.8	- 1.8
Average Hourly Earnings	$ 11.69	$ 11.64	$ 11.54	0.4	1.3
PRICE INDEXES					
Consumer Price Index 1967 = 100	316.1	315.5	305.2	0.2	3.6
Producer Prices, All Commodities	309.8	309.9	308.1	0.0	0.6
Retail Prices of Food 1967 = 100	307.3	305.1	299.4	0.7	2.6

[1] Preliminary. [2] Final. [3] Not Benchmarked to the Current Population Survey. [4] Rate does not include claimants receiving benefits under extended benefit provisions.

WYOMING
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE & UNEMPLOYMENT

Table 2

(Prepared in Cooperation with U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics)

COUNTY	LABOR FORCE					UNEMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT RATE		
	JAN 1985	DEC 1984	JAN 1984	%CHANGE DEC-JAN	%CHANGE JAN-JAN	JAN 1985	DEC 1984	JAN 1984	JAN 1985	DEC 1984	JAN 1984
Statewide	237,697	244,119	246,337	- 2.6	- 3.5	17,592	13,763	20,213	7.4	5.6	8.2
Albany	14,309	14,901	14,664	- 4.0	- 2.4	781	613	967	5.5	4.1	6.6
Big Horn	4,703	4,780	5,008	- 1.6	- 6.1	456	309	351	9.7	6.5	7.0
Campbell	18,004	18,568	18,653	- 3.0	- 3.5	1,170	846	1,160	6.5	4.6	6.2
Carbon	8,967	9,061	9,649	- 1.0	- 7.1	758	580	1,021	8.5	6.4	10.6
Converse	6,974	6,850	7,113	1.8	- 2.0	586	455	622	8.4	6.6	8.7
Crook	2,525	2,663	2,627	- 5.2	- 3.9	183	165	204	7.2	6.2	7.8
Fremont	15,935	16,485	18,264	- 3.3	- 12.8	1,736	1,393	2,777	10.9	8.5	15.2
Goshen	6,252	6,664	6,360	- 6.2	- 1.7	363	306	412	5.8	4.6	6.5
Hot Springs	2,917	2,879	2,864	1.3	1.9	154	124	113	5.3	4.3	3.9
Johnson	3,503	3,631	3,770	- 3.5	- 7.1	206	121	345	5.9	3.3	9.1
Laramie	34,282	34,014	33,878	0.8	1.2	2,221	1,604	2,598	6.5	4.7	7.7
Lincoln	5,735	6,026	5,711	- 4.8	0.4	632	590	701	11.0	9.8	12.3
Natrona	37,916	38,726	38,803	2.1	- 2.3	2,622	2,103	2,766	6.9	5.4	7.1
Niobrara	1,385	1,540	1,300	- 10.1	6.5	178	135	58	12.8	8.8	4.5
Park	12,014	12,705	12,304	- 5.4	- 2.4	950	679	724	7.9	5.3	5.9
Platte	4,061	4,237	3,956	- 4.2	2.7	294	257	420	7.2	6.1	10.6
Sheridan	11,064	11,553	12,637	- 4.2	- 12.4	1,154	964	1,400	10.4	8.3	11.1
Sublette	2,287	2,380	2,351	- 3.9	- 2.7	147	79	109	6.4	3.3	4.6
Sweetwater	18,854	19,572	20,317	- 3.7	- 7.2	1,288	985	1,618	6.8	5.0	8.0
Teton	6,275	6,542	6,616	- 4.1	- 5.2	506	552	585	8.1	8.4	8.8
Uinta	11,171	11,607	10,723	- 3.8	4.2	727	536	584	6.5	4.6	5.4
Washakie	5,004	5,130	5,077	- 2.5	- 1.4	277	201	407	5.5	3.9	8.0
Weston	3,559	3,603	3,693	- 1.2	- 3.6	205	167	274	5.7	4.6	7.4

The ESC wishes to stress that the data contained in this table are only estimates. The data for the current month is a preliminary estimate and will be revised next month, and revised yet again in about one year. On an annual average basis, the accuracy of these estimates may vary from the actual figures by as much as eight percent, plus or minus.

Table 3

NON-FARM WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT IN WYOMING [1]

(Prepared in Cooperation with U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics)

INDUSTRY	EMPLOYMENT (In thousands)			% Change on Total Emp.	
	JAN 1985[2]	DEC 1984[3]	JAN 1984	DEC 1984	JAN 1984
	Total	Total	Total	to JAN 1985	to JAN 1985
WYOMING NON-FARM WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT					
Total Non-Farm Wage & Salary Employment	188.5	197.5	194.6	- 4.6	- 3.1
Manufacturing	8.6	8.4	7.7	- 3.4	11.7
Durable Goods	4.1	4.0	3.5	2.5	17.1
Nondurable Goods	4.5	4.9	4.2	- 8.2	7.1
Petroleum & Coal Products	1.1	1.2	1.2	- 8.3	- 8.3
Total Non-Manufacturing Employment	179.9	188.6	186.9	- 4.6	- 3.7
Mining	26.1	26.2	28.3	- 0.4	- 7.8
Contract Construction	8.7	15.8	11.1	- 44.9	- 21.6
Transportation & Public Utilities	15.4	16.5	15.8	- 6.7	- 2.5
Railroad Transportation	3.1	3.2	3.3	- 3.1	- 6.1
Transportation except Railroads	5.7	6.6	5.8	- 13.6	- 1.7
Comm., Elect., Gas & Sani. Serv.	6.6	6.7	6.7	- 1.5	- 1.5
Wholesale & Retail Trade	43.0	43.8	44.2	- 1.8	- 2.7
Wholesale Trade	9.0	8.8	9.2	2.3	- 2.2
Retail Trade	34.0	35.0	35.0	- 2.9	- 2.9
Food Stores	4.9	5.0	5.0	- 2.0	- 2.0
Automotive Dealers & Serv. Stat.	5.7	5.9	5.7	- 3.4	0.0
Eating & Drinking Places	10.6	11.1	12.1	- 4.5	- 12.4
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate	8.1	7.6	7.8	6.6	3.8
Services	29.9	28.8	30.6	3.8	- 2.3
Personal Services	1.9	1.9	1.7	0.0	11.8
Medical & Other Health Services	6.2	6.3	6.1	- 1.6	1.6
Government	48.7	49.9	49.1	- 2.4	- 0.8
Federal Government	6.2	6.2	6.6	0.0	- 6.1
State & Local Government	42.5	43.7	42.5	- 2.7	0.0
State Government	13.9	12.8	12.9	8.6	7.8
Local Government	28.6	30.9	29.6	- 7.4	- 3.4

(See Footnotes at End of Table)

NON-FARM WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT IN WYOMING [1]

Table 3 (Cont'd)

INDUSTRY	EMPLOYMENT (In thousands)			% Change on Total Emp.	
	JAN 1985[2]	DEC 1984[3]	JAN 1984	DEC 1984	JAN 1984
	Total	Total	Total	to JAN 1985	to JAN 1985
CASPER (Natrona County)					
TOTAL NON-FARM WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT	32.8	35.1	33.8	- 6.6	- 3.0
Manufacturing	1.3	1.5	1.2	- 13.3	8.3
Nondurable Goods	0.8	0.9	0.7	- 11.1	14.3
Petroleum & Coal Products	0.5	0.6	0.4	- 16.7	25.0
Total Non-Manufacturing Employment	31.5	33.6	32.6	- 6.3	- 3.4
Mining	5.0	5.2	6.0	- 3.8	- 16.7
Oil & Gas Extraction	4.5	4.6	5.5	- 2.2	- 18.2
Other Mining, Quarrying, etc.	0.5	0.6	0.5	- 16.7	0.0
Contract Construction	1.9	2.5	1.8	- 24.0	5.6
Transportation & Public Utilities	2.0	2.1	2.3	- 4.8	- 13.0
Wholesale & Retail Trade	9.5	9.8	9.4	- 3.1	1.1
Wholesale Trade	3.7	3.7	3.4	0.0	8.8
Retail Trade	5.8	6.1	6.0	- 4.9	- 3.3
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate	1.6	1.7	1.7	- 5.9	- 5.9
Services	5.6	5.5	5.5	1.8	1.8
Government	5.9	6.8	5.9	- 13.2	0.0
Federal Government	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.0	0.0
State & Local Government	5.2	6.1	5.2	- 14.8	0.0
CHEYENNE (Laramie County)					
TOTAL NON-FARM WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT	29.4	30.9	29.0	- 4.9	1.4
Manufacturing	1.2	1.0	1.2	20.0	0.0
Total Non-Manufacturing Employment	28.2	29.9	27.8	- 5.7	1.4
Contract Construction	0.9	1.8	1.2	- 50.0	- 25.0
Transportation & Public Utilities	3.3	3.3	3.6	0.0	- 8.3
Wholesale & Retail Trade	7.2	7.6	7.1	- 5.3	1.4
Wholesale Trade	0.8	0.9	0.8	- 11.1	0.0
Retail Trade	6.4	6.7	6.3	- 4.5	1.6
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate	1.9	1.8	1.8	5.6	5.6
Services & Miscellaneous	4.8	5.5	4.5	- 12.7	6.7
Government	10.0	9.7	9.4	3.1	6.4
Federal Government	2.5	2.4	2.3	4.2	8.7
State & Local Government	7.5	7.3	7.1	2.7	5.6

[1] Estimates include all full and part-time wage and salary workers in non-ag. establishments who worked or received pay during the week which includes the 12th of the month. Proprietors, self-employeds, domestic servants and personnel of the armed forces are excluded. [2] Subject to revision. [3] Revised figures.

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WYOMING LABOR FORCE TRENDS

The *Wyoming Labor Force Trends* is published monthly by the Research and Analysis Section of the Wyoming Employment Security Commission, Dick Sadler, Executive Director.

Please send comments, questions or address changes to Wyoming Employment Security Commission, Research and Analysis Section, P.O. Box 2760, Casper, WY 82602, Ph. (307) 235-3643.

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5/3/05 58895-1

WYOMING LABOR FORCE TRENDS

VOL. 22 NO. 2 FEB. 1985

TREND SETTERS

WYOMING	Feb. '85	Jan. '85
Labor Force	242,472	237,883
Employment	223,605	220,100
Unemployment	18,867	17,783
Rate (Raw)	7.8	7.5
Rate (S.A.)	6.8	6.5
Mining Hourly Wage	$13.48	$13.29
Avg. Weekly Hours, Mining	43.0	43.4
USA		
Rate (S.A.)	7.3	7.3
Mining Hourly Wage	$11.78	$11.77
Avg. Weekly Hours, Mining	42.6	42.9
Consumer Price Index		
All Urban 1967 = 100		
U.S. City Avg.	317.4	316.1
Denver (Bimonthly)	350.6	
Year Change (U.S.)	+3.5	+3.6

S.A.-Seasonally Adjusted

NATIONAL ESTIMATES

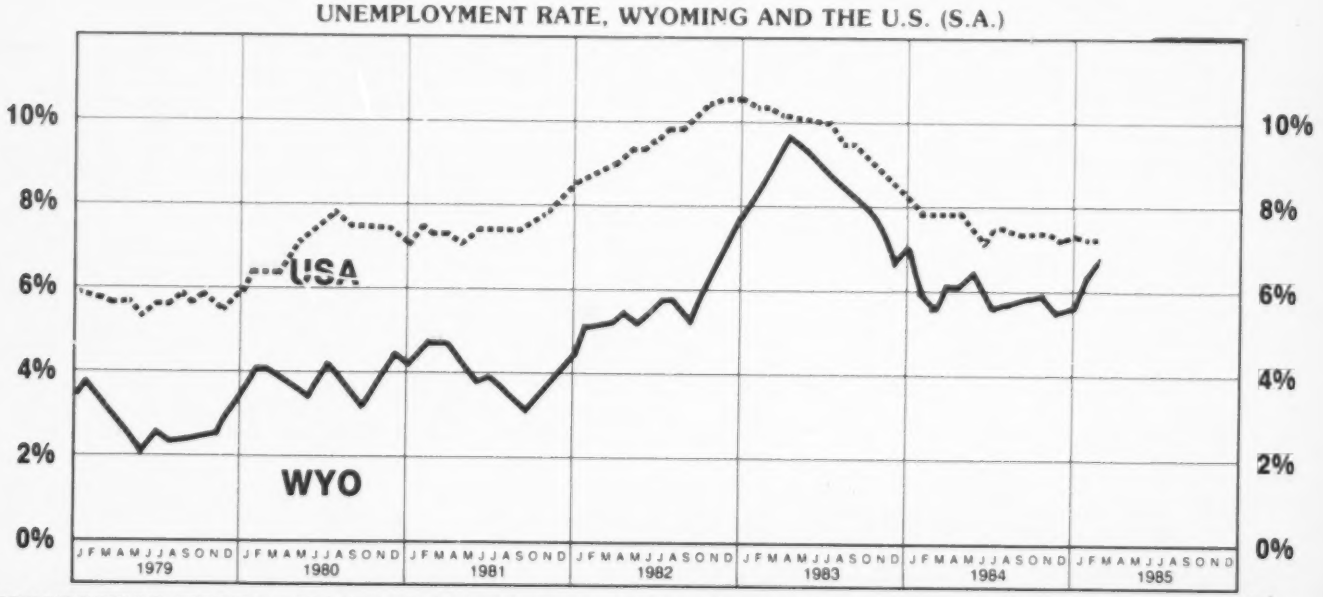
Employment rose slightly in February, while unemployment was little changed, according to Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) of the U.S. Department of Labor. The civilian labor force employment was estimated at 106.7 million while unemployment was pegged at 8.4 million for the month of February. These figures continue to show evidence of steady labor force growth following the recession. Since late in 1982, the number of people considered employed has increased by 7.5 million. The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate in the U.S. for February was 7.3 percent. This compares favorably with the January rate of 7.4 percent.

The U.S. preliminary estimates for the month of March have just been released. The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate of 7.3 percent was unchanged from February.

IN WYOMING

Wyoming's February rate of 7.8 percent was an increase over January's revised rate of 7.5 percent. This is an expected seasonal increase as the state's rates usually peak in February or March. Both unemployment and the rate have increased for five consecutive months. While employment increased by 3,500 month-to-month, unemployment also increased by nearly 1,100. These two figures together explain the numerical increase of nearly 4,600 in the labor force in just one month.

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE, WYOMING AND THE U.S. (S.A.)



WYOMING EMPLOYMENT SECURITY COMMISSION, Research & Analysis Section

Compared to February of 1984, this year's picture is slightly better. See Table 2. There are almost 900 fewer persons unemployed in February of 1985 than in the same month a year ago. This translates to an unemployment rate that was two-tenths of a percent higher back in February 1984.

THE COUNTIES

For the second month in a row sparsely populated Niobrara County had the highest unemployment rate in the state with an estimate of 14.7 percent for February. With such a small labor force, it doesn't require many unemployed people to get a significant unemployment rate. Add that to the recent completions of the Women's Prison, a grade school, and a railroad line extension, and it's a bit easier to understand the increase in claims filed for unemployment insurance in the area. Of course, the number of claims filed is one of the major components in the calculation of unemployment rates.

These counties also had much higher unemployment rates than the state's average of 7.8 percent: Lincoln (11.8), Fremont (11.3), Sheridan (10.5), and Big Horn at 10.2 percent.

The University of Wyoming's influence on Albany County's environment is an obvious reason for the area's rate of 5.3 percent which was the lowest in the state by a wide margin.

In terms of sheer numbers, Natrona County had over 2,800 persons unemployed and Laramie County over 2,100 jobless. Despite these high numbers both counties had unemployment rates that were lower than the statewide rate.

OTHER STATES

Unrevised January rates that are not seasonally adjusted are the most current data available for all states. Wyoming and Utah had unrevised rates of 7.4 percent in January 1985. Idaho's rate of 9.5 percent and Montana at 9.1 percent were the two bordering states with higher rates than Wyoming's. Colorado at 6.9 percent, along with Nebraska and South Dakota, both of which had rates of 5.9 percent, were all lower than Wyoming.

Nationally, the state of Massachusetts had the lowest rate at 4.6 percent, while West Virginia continued to have the highest unemployment rate at 15.9 percent.

ESTABLISHMENT DATA

The Current Employment Statistics (CES) program, which is a survey of business establishments in Wyoming, is the source for material found here and in Table 3.

Preliminary CES results for the month of February show just over 188,000 persons employed in Wyoming. This is a slight drop from the previous month and a decrease of 6,300 or 3.2 percent from February of 1984.

Trade and Government continue to be the dominant industries in terms of employment. Together they employ over 92,000 persons or nearly 50 percent of all the state's employment. Construction employment is down 20 percent over-the-year, however, hiring in this sector will pick up as companies begin to gear up for the large projects which commence with the warmer weather.

ESC's AFFECT ON THE ECONOMY

Have you ever wondered what true monetary benefits the nation's Employment Security Systems provide? According to a report recently released by the Internal Association of Personnel in Employment Security (IAPES) contributions of the various states' systems are more than substantial.

Nationally, the Employment Security Systems contribute somewhere in the neighborhood of $200 billion to the nation's economy each year. The 5.1 million placements each year equate to a national impact of almost $100 billion. The more than $16.5 billion worth of total benefits paid out last year also injects around $100 billion into the economy. Combined, the Job Service and Unemployment Insurance programs directly touch the lives of more than 30 million Americans.

Even though its difficult to quantify, the Labor Market Information program is also considered important because it provides so many business and government entities with statistical analyses and other planning tools. Few government programs can affect so many lives. The Employment Security Systems do so in a positive manner by helping people find work, counseling them, and helping them financially during transition periods.

During fiscal year 1984 Wyoming received nearly 41,000 job openings, of which almost 34,000 were filled. During the same period, around 60,000 applicants received some type of service from the states' Job Service Centers.

Over 189,000 employees were covered by Wyoming and federal unemployment insurance tax laws during 1984. The 16,500 employers paid out over $56 million in benefits from July of 1983 to June of 1984. During calendar year 1984 nearly 15,000 employees received an average of $142 a week for an average of 15.5 weeks.

It is impossible to determine the number of information requests answered by the Labor Market Information (LMI) program (in Wyoming, LMI is part of Research and Analysis) but with Wyoming's volatile economy, especially of late, Research and Analysis personnel are finding that more and more of their time is taken up in this area. Calls from employers, the Industrial Siting Administration, consultants, government agencies, people wanting to move here and many others come in daily.

The positive figures in the IAPES report clearly illustrate the Employment Security System's ability to serve the nation's jobseekers and employers and evidence the valuable contributions the system makes to a strong economy and a stable workforce.

LAUS BENCHMARKS FOR 1984

The final revisions for the Local Area Unemployment Statistics of 1984 are reprinted on the last four pages of this month's *Trends*. The figures are for each county as well as the state as a whole and include each month's estimate in addition to the annual average. Note that figures are compiled for four categories including: labor force, employment, unemployment, and unemployment rates. Remember that the number employed plus the number unemployed equals the labor force and that the unemployment rate is the ratio of the number unemployed to the total labor force.

The state's total labor force for 1984 averaged 254,000. This is nearly a 3.5 percent decline from the record high of 263,000 established in 1983. Almost all counties posted decreases over-the-year.

Annual average employment also dropped by 3,000 to 238,000 over-the-year. However, the statewide average annual unemployment figure went from a record 22,000 in 1983 down to 16,000 in 1984. The state's unemployment rate consequently dipped to 6.3 percent from the 8.4 percent recorded in 1983. It appears that many of the state's employers proceeded apprehensively in 1984 after the severe slump of 1983.

Employment-wise, Fremont, Sheridan and Sweetwater Counties had the biggest losses. Slumping uranium, oil, and gas industries along with a defunct iron ore industry help explain these trends.

While unemployment dropped in virtually every county, it is still easy to identify areas where problems are more persistent. Although Natrona County's 1984 average unemployment rate of 5.6 percent was below the statewide rate of 6.3 percent, there was still an average of over 2,400 persons unemployed each month. Despite lower than average unemployment rates, Natrona County was still responsible for over 15 percent of Wyoming's unemployment in 1984.

Although Lincoln County averaged only 600 unemployed each month, their unemployment rate of 9.8 percent was well above the average for the state. Unfortuntely, Fremont County had an average of 1,900 persons unemployed each month along with the highest annual average unemployment rate of 10.6 percent.

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX - (1967 = 100)

ALL URBAN

	ALL ITEMS	FOOD	HOUSING	RENT	APPAREL	TRANSP.	MEDICAL
February 1985	317.4	309.5	343.6	258.4	201.8	314.3	393.8
Annual % Change	3.5	2.4	3.8	6.1	2.9	2.8	5.5

WAGE EARNERS AND CLERICAL WORKERS

	ALL ITEMS	FOOD	HOUSING	RENT	APPAREL	TRANSP.	MEDICAL
February 1985	313.9	309.0	337.2	257.5	200.7	316.3	392.0
Annual % Change	3.5	2.3	4.0	6.0	2.7	2.8	5.6

RECENT RESEARCH AND ANALYSIS PUBLICATIONS

- **1985 Wyoming Annual Planning Report;** a comprehensive analysis of labor market developments for the state and its counties.
- **State and County Summary of Covered Employment Annual Report;** gives average employment and average weekly wages by industry for the state and its counties for 1981, 1982, and 1983.
- **Fourth Quarter 1984 Report of Applicants and Job Openings;** comes from information supplied by Wyoming's 16 Job Service Centers entailing an analysis of job openings and applicants and characteristics of both.
- **Occupational Employment Statistics, Manufacturing and Hospitals in Wyoming: 1983;** based on a sample of these industries, this report identifies the staffing patterns and occupations comprising these industries.
- **The Statistical Review of Wyoming;** not published since the mid-1970's, this 150-page report compiles all the significant data generated by the Wyoming Employment Security Commission from 1939 to 1984.
- **Wyoming Occupational Outlook;** just released, this report projects industry and occupational growth in Wyoming up to 1990. It also provides information concerning the number of expected job openings in many occupations.

Table 1

WYOMING ECONOMIC INDICATORS

ITEM	FEB 1985 [1]	JAN 1985 [1]	FEB 1984 [2]	Percent change From A Month Ago	Percent change From A Year Ago
WYOMING EMPLOYMENT DATA					
Total Civilian Labor Force	242,472	237,883	246,591	1.9	- 1.7
Unemployment	18,867	17,783	19,754	6.1	- 4.5
Employed Labor Force	223,605	220,100	226,837	1.6	- 1.4
a. Covered Employment (Under Wyo. UI Law)[3]	182,100	182,000	181,226	- 0.1	0.5
b. Agriculture[3]	9,439	7,866	9,613	20.0	- 1.8
Total Unemployment Rate (Wyo.) Seas. Adj.*	7.8% 6.8*	7.5% 6.5*	8.0% 7.0*	XXX	XXX
Total Unemployment Rate (U.S.) Seas. Adj.*	7.8% 7.3%*	8.0% 7.4%*	8.1% 7.8%*	XXX	XXX
Insured Unemployment Rate (Wyo.)[4]	3.3%	2.6%	3.8%	XXX	XXX
HOURS & EARNINGS					
Mining (Production Workers):					
Average Weekly Earnings	$ 579.64	$ 576.79	$ 546.88	0.5	6.0
Average Weekly Hours	43.0	43.4	43.3	- 0.9	- 0.7
Average Hourly Earnings	$ 13.48	$ 13.29	$ 12.63	1.4	6.7
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE					
Claims Filed in Local Offices	32,296	29,805	31,316	8.4	3.1
a. Initial	3,914	5,774	2,672	- 32.2	46.5
Weeks Compensated	15,661	13,593	28,036	15.2	- 44.1
Total Amount Benefits Paid	$ 3,874,801	$ 2,905,535	$ 3,538,113	33.4	9.5
Average Weekly Benefit Payment	$ 147.29	$ 147.06	$ 126.20	0.2	16.7
EMPLOYMENT SERVICE					
New Applications Received During Month	3,072	3,525	2,951	- 12.9	4.1
Non-Ag. Openings Received	1,911	1,920	1,288	- 0.5	48.4
Non-Ag. Placements	1,829	1,711	1,884	6.9	- 2.9
UNITED STATES DATA					
HOURS & EARNINGS					
Mining (Production Workers):					
Average Weekly Earnings	$ 501.83	$ 504.93	$ 492.92	- 0.6	1.8
Average Weekly Hours	42.6	42.9	42.9	- 0.7	- 0.7
Average Hourly Earnings	$ 11.78	$ 11.77	$ 11.49	0.1	2.5
PRICE INDEXES					
Consumer Price Index 1967 = 100	317.4	316.1	306.6	0.4	3.5
Producer Prices, All Commodities	309.2	309.8	308.9	- 0.2	0.1
Retail Prices of Food 1967 = 100	309.5	307.3	302.1	0.7	2.4

[1] Preliminary. [2] Final. [3] Not Benchmarked to the Current Population Survey. [4] Rate does not include claimants receiving benefits under extended benefit provisions.

WYOMING
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE & UNEMPLOYMENT
(Prepared in Cooperation with U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics)

Table 2

COUNTY	LABOR FORCE					UNEMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT RATE		
	FEB 1985	JAN 1985	FEB 1984	%CHANGE JAN-FEB	%CHANGE FEB-FEB	FEB 1985	JAN 1985	FEB 1984	FEB 1985	JAN 1985	FEB 1984
Statewide	242,472	237,883	246,591	1.9	- 1.7	18,867	17,783	19,754	7.8	7.5	8.0
Albany	14,517	14,195	14,698	2.3	- 1.2	770	800	837	5.3	5.6	5.7
Big Horn	4,872	4,666	5,142	4.4	- 5.3	497	457	371	10.2	9.8	7.2
Campbell	18,219	17,848	18,649	2.1	- 2.3	1,305	1,162	1,130	7.2	6.5	6.1
Carbon	8,965	8,940	9,643	0.3	- 7.0	831	797	1,145	9.3	8.9	11.9
Converse	7,178	6,907	7,187	3.9	- 0.1	626	572	552	8.7	8.3	7.7
Crook	2,507	2,508	2,546	0.0	- 1.5	186	182	173	7.4	7.3	6.8
Fremont	16,370	15,818	18,308	3.5	- 10.6	1,857	1,730	2,553	11.3	10.9	13.9
Goshen	6,497	6,193	6,408	4.9	1.4	462	357	334	7.1	5.8	5.2
Hot Springs	3,014	2,890	2,911	4.3	3.5	208	153	126	6.9	5.3	4.3
Johnson	3,626	3,469	3,782	4.5	- 4.1	254	202	289	7.0	5.8	7.6
Laramie	34,426	34,461	34,100	- 0.1	1.0	2,133	2,352	2,509	6.2	6.8	7.4
Lincoln	5,771	5,694	5,707	1.4	1.1	682	632	732	11.8	11.1	12.8
Natrona	38,693	38,233	38,355	1.2	0.9	2,824	2,623	2,800	7.3	6.9	7.3
Niobrara	1,469	1,380	1,364	6.4	7.7	216	180	81	14.7	13.0	5.9
Park	12,206	11,907	12,392	2.5	- 1.5	990	945	762	8.1	7.9	6.1
Platte	4,279	4,021	4,079	6.4	4.9	313	290	371	7.3	7.2	9.1
Sheridan	11,772	11,366	12,583	3.6	- 6.4	1,236	1,173	1,220	10.5	10.3	9.7
Sublette	2,297	2,272	2,458	1.1	- 6.6	151	146	222	6.6	6.4	9.0
Sweetwater	19,563	19,315	20,140	1.3	- 2.9	1,354	1,309	1,531	6.9	6.8	7.6
Teton	6,229	6,226	6,716	0.0	- 7.3	468	502	724	7.5	8.1	10.8
Uinta	11,221	11,067	10,747	1.4	4.4	860	727	722	7.7	6.6	6.7
Washakie	5,205	4,961	5,066	4.9	2.7	382	273	320	7.3	5.5	6.3
Weston	3,576	3,544	3,610	0.9	- 0.9	264	218	250	7.4	6.2	6.9

The ESC wishes to stress that the data contained in this table are only estimates. The data for the current month is a preliminary estimate and will be revised next month, and revised yet again in about one year. On an annual average basis, the accuracy of these estimates may vary from the actual figures by as much as eight percent, plus or minus.

Table 3

NON-FARM WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT IN WYOMING [1]

(Prepared in Cooperation with U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics)

INDUSTRY	EMPLOYMENT (In thousands)			% Change on Total Emp.	
	FEB 1985[2]	JAN 1984[3]	FEB 1984	JAN 1984	FEB 1984
	Total	Total	Total	to FEB 1985	to FEB 1985
WYOMING NON-FARM WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT					
Total Non-Farm Wage & Salary Employment	188.2	188.6	194.5	- 0.2	- 3.2
Manufacturing	8.0	8.5	7.4	- 5.9	8.1
Durable Goods	3.8	4.0	3.4	- 5.0	11.8
Nondurable Goods	4.2	4.5	4.0	- 6.7	5.0
Petroleum & Coal Products	1.1	1.1	1.1	0.0	0.0
Total Non-Manufacturing Employment	180.2	180.1	187.1	0.1	- 3.7
Mining	26.2	26.7	27.7	- 1.9	- 5.4
Contract Construction	8.8	8.6	11.0	2.3	- 20.0
Transportation & Public Utilities	15.3	15.5	16.2	- 1.3	- 5.6
Railroad Transportation	3.0	3.1	3.3	- 3.2	- 9.1
Transportation except Railroads	5.8	5.8	5.8	0.0	0.0
Comm., Elect., Gas & Sani. Serv.	6.5	6.6	7.1	- 1.5	- 8.5
Wholesale & Retail Trade	42.2	42.4	43.5	- 0.5	- 3.0
Wholesale Trade	9.0	9.0	9.1	0.0	- 1.1
Retail Trade	33.2	33.4	34.4	- 0.6	- 3.5
Food Stores	5.2	4.8	4.9	8.3	6.1
Automotive Dealers & Serv. Stat.	5.7	5.7	5.8	0.0	- 1.7
Eating & Drinking Places	10.3	10.6	12.0	- 2.8	- 14.2
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate	8.0	8.1	7.9	- 1.2	1.3
Services	29.5	29.5	30.5	0.0	- 3.3
Personal Services	1.9	1.9	1.9	0.0	0.0
Medical & Other Health Services	6.1	6.1	6.1	0.0	0.0
Government	50.2	49.3	50.3	1.8	- 0.2
Federal Government	6.3	6.2	6.5	1.6	- 3.1
State & Local Government	43.9	43.1	43.8	1.9	0.2
State Government	14.4	14.1	13.1	2.1	9.9
Local Government	29.5	29.0	30.7	1.7	- 3.9

(See Footnotes at End of Table)

NON-FARM WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT IN WYOMING [1]

Table 3 (Cont'd)

INDUSTRY	EMPLOYMENT (In thousands)			% Change on Total Emp.	
	FEB 1985[2]	JAN 1985[3]	FEB 1984	JAN 1985	FEB 1984
	Total	Total	Total	to FEB 1985	to FEB 1985
CASPER (Natrona County)					
TOTAL NON-FARM WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT	32.9	33.1	33.5	- 0.6	- 1.8
Manufacturing	1.3	1.3	1.2	0.0	8.3
Nondurable Goods	0.8	0.8	0.7	0.0	14.3
Petroleum & Coal Products	0.5	0.5	0.4	0.0	25.0
Total Non-Manufacturing Employment	31.6	31.8	32.3	- 0.6	- 2.2
Mining	5.0	5.1	5.6	- 2.0	- 10.7
Oil & Gas Extraction	4.6	4.7	5.1	- 2.1	- 9.8
Other Mining, Quarrying, etc.	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.0	- 20.0
Contract Construction	1.9	1.9	1.8	0.0	5.6
Transportation & Public Utilities	2.1	2.1	2.3	0.0	- 8.7
Wholesale & Retail Trade	9.3	9.4	9.2	- 1.1	1.1
Wholesale Trade	3.6	3.7	3.4	- 2.7	5.9
Retail Trade	5.7	5.7	5.8	0.0	- 1.7
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate	1.7	1.7	1.7	0.0	0.0
Services	5.4	5.5	5.6	- 1.8	- 3.6
Government	6.2	6.1	6.1	1.6	1.6
Federal Government	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.0	0.0
State & Local Government	5.5	5.4	5.4	1.9	1.9
CHEYENNE (Laramie County)					
TOTAL NON-FARM WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT	29.2	29.4	29.2	- 0.7	0.0
Manufacturing	1.1	1.1	1.1	0.0	0.0
Total Non-Manufacturing Employment	28.1	28.3	28.1	- 0.7	0.0
Contract Construction	0.9	1.0	1.3	- 10.0	- 30.8
Transportation & Public Utilities	3.2	3.4	3.6	- 5.9	- 11.1
Wholesale & Retail Trade	7.1	7.1	6.9	0.0	2.9
Wholesale Trade	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.0	0.0
Retail Trade	6.3	6.3	6.1	0.0	3.3
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate	1.9	1.9	1.8	0.0	5.6
Services & Miscellaneous	4.9	4.9	4.6	0.0	6.5
Government	10.0	9.9	9.7	1.0	3.1
Federal Government	2.5	2.5	2.3	0.0	8.7
State & Local Government	7.5	7.4	7.4	1.4	1.4

Estimates include all full and part-time wage and salary workers in non-ag. establishments who worked or received pay during the week which includes the 12th of the month. Proprietors, self-employeds, domestic servants and personnel of the armed forces are excluded. [2] Subject to revision. [3] Revised figures.

WYOMING
1984 LABOR FORCE

COUNTY	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	1984 ANNUAL AVG.	1983 ANNUAL AVG.
Statewide	246,337	246,591	247,477	249,871	256,370	269,281	261,801	260,929	260,386	256,178	248,659	244,119	254,000	263,000
Albany	14,664	14,698	14,816	15,090	15,339	15,119	14,954	14,951	15,485	15,612	15,380	14,901	15,084	15,132
Big Horn	5,008	5,142	5,284	5,396	5,509	5,681	5,142	5,118	5,231	5,217	5,125	4,780	5,219	5,636
Campbell	18,653	18,649	18,839	19,209	19,708	19,947	19,168	19,223	19,204	19,008	18,997	18,568	19,098	19,833
Carbon	9,649	9,643	9,510	9,508	9,812	10,389	10,033	9,852	10,071	9,761	9,402	9,061	10,493	10,493
Converse	7,113	7,187	7,084	7,058	7,258	7,515	7,361	7,338	7,556	7,274	6,959	6,850	7,213	7,371
Crook	2,627	2,546	2,594	2,723	2,889	3,197	2,920	2,965	2,979	2,908	2,854	2,663	2,822	2,873
Fremont	18,264	18,308	18,554	18,261	18,536	18,527	17,836	17,768	18,045	18,024	16,856	16,485	17,995	19,132
Goshen	6,360	6,408	6,615	6,722	7,015	7,373	6,980	6,985	7,078	7,409	6,949	6,664	6,880	6,945
Hot Springs	2,864	2,911	2,966	3,002	3,049	3,143	2,934	2,903	3,016	3,021	2,973	2,879	2,972	2,926
Johnson	3,770	3,782	3,879	3,878	3,983	4,399	3,998	4,011	3,933	3,982	3,790	3,631	3,920	4,104
Laramie	33,878	34,100	33,509	34,298	34,803	35,849	35,078	34,935	34,899	34,481	34,337	34,014	34,515	34,918
Lincoln	5,711	5,707	6,055	6,059	6,137	6,707	6,556	6,445	6,706	6,192	6,138	6,026	6,203	6,160
Natrona	38,803	38,355	38,520	38,075	38,881	40,240	39,360	39,212	38,955	38,850	38,482	38,726	38,872	40,769
Niobrara	1,300	1,364	1,383	1,511	1,604	1,727	1,733	1,680	1,808	1,768	1,671	1,540	1,591	1,635
Park	12,304	12,392	12,565	12,872	14,355	17,205	17,383	17,359	15,939	14,036	12,816	12,705	14,328	14,326
Platte	3,956	4,079	4,072	4,185	4,382	4,604	4,375	4,442	4,791	4,564	4,369	4,237	4,338	4,254
Sheridan	12,637	12,583	12,716	12,728	12,956	13,056	12,582	12,774	12,253	12,123	11,706	11,553	12,472	13,381
Sublette	2,351	2,458	2,444	2,563	2,649	2,774	2,580	2,538	2,590	2,569	2,462	2,380	2,530	2,622
Sweetwater	20,317	20,140	20,110	20,656	20,860	21,443	20,461	19,902	20,475	20,321	20,008	19,572	20,355	22,487
Teton	6,616	6,716	6,580	6,389	6,591	9,666	10,136	10,205	8,691	7,125	6,351	6,542	7,634	7,887
Uinta	10,723	10,747	10,629	10,809	10,958	11,222	10,902	10,982	11,295	12,325	12,040	11,607	11,186	10,903
Washakie	5,077	5,066	5,140	5,168	5,298	5,667	5,601	5,548	5,530	5,763	5,294	5,130	5,357	5,388
Weston	3,693	3,610	3,614	3,714	3,800	3,832	3,727	3,794	3,856	3,846	3,700	3,603	3,732	3,826

REVISED 2-85

Prepared by Research & Analysis

WYOMING
1984 EMPLOYMENT

COUNTY	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	1984 ANNUAL AVG.	1983 ANNUAL AVG.
Statewide	226,124	226,837	227,729	230,938	238,639	253,333	247,085	247,841	248,109	243,480	235,529	230,356	238,000	241,000
Albany	13,697	13,861	13,934	14,081	14,631	14,505	14,399	14,445	15,025	15,200	14,889	14,288	14,413	14,264
Big Horn	4,657	4,771	4,822	5,002	5,125	5,331	4,816	4,831	4,972	4,970	4,843	4,470	4,884	5,113
Campbell	17,493	17,519	17,519	18,019	18,306	18,810	18,335	18,361	18,395	18,078	18,115	17,722	18,056	18,403
Carbon	8,628	8,498	8,484	8,418	8,951	9,615	9,364	9,423	9,650	9,249	8,853	8,481	8,968	9,302
Converse	6,491	6,635	6,553	6,550	6,723	7,087	6,867	6,947	7,181	6,924	6,563	6,395	6,743	6,716
Crook	2,422	2,372	2,422	2,530	2,697	3,063	2,821	2,843	2,871	2,787	2,689	2,498	2,668	2,686
Fremont	15,488	15,755	15,628	16,040	16,253	16,650	16,136	16,314	16,707	16,764	15,705	15,092	16,044	17,062
Goshen	5,948	6,074	6,267	6,469	6,781	7,103	6,647	6,629	6,752	7,137	6,644	6,359	6,561	6,561
Hot Springs	2,751	2,785	2,784	2,859	2,897	2,958	2,804	2,785	2,904	2,912	2,851	2,755	2,837	2,750
Johnson	3,425	3,494	3,550	3,641	3,794	4,208	3,862	3,904	3,842	3,844	3,655	3,511	3,728	3,802
Laramie	31,281	31,591	31,594	32,363	33,192	34,362	33,532	33,552	33,450	32,894	32,795	32,410	32,751	32,569
Lincoln	5,011	4,975	5,238	5,174	5,397	6,001	5,968	6,092	6,401	5,841	5,628	5,436	5,597	5,399
Natrona	36,037	35,556	35,807	35,322	36,149	37,503	36,854	36,995	36,920	36,889	36,502	36,623	36,430	36,640
Niobrara	1,242	1,284	1,306	1,448	1,537	1,651	1,600	1,599	1,724	1,649	1,575	1,405	1,502	1,517
Park	11,580	11,631	11,774	12,084	13,659	16,445	16,724	16,736	15,374	13,492	12,128	12,026	13,638	13,525
Platte	3,536	3,708	3,811	3,905	4,140	4,338	4,113	4,132	4,508	4,323	4,105	3,981	4,050	3,870
Sheridan	11,237	11,363	11,444	11,675	11,988	12,145	11,783	11,867	11,406	11,209	10,855	10,590	11,463	12,333
Sublette	2,242	2,236	2,225	2,319	2,429	2,587	2,420	2,437	2,509	2,513	2,363	2,301	2,382	2,419
Sweetwater	18,699	18,609	18,695	19,156	19,575	20,220	19,020	18,697	19,358	19,178	18,999	18,587	19,066	20,263
Teton	6,031	5,991	5,961	5,722	5,811	9,324	9,850	9,968	8,432	6,727	5,646	5,990	7,121	7,299
Uinta	10,139	10,025	9,805	9,895	10,030	10,460	10,162	10,362	10,681	11,677	11,515	11,071	10,485	9,997
Washakie	4,670	4,746	4,798	4,890	5,021	5,415	5,425	5,289	5,331	5,526	5,093	4,930	5,095	4,985
Weston	3,419	3,360	3,309	3,375	3,552	3,551	3,582	3,632	3,716	3,695	3,518	3,436	3,512	3,525

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WYOMING
1984 UNEMPLOYMENT

COUNTY	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	1984 ANNUAL AVG.	1983 ANNUAL AVG.
Statewide	20,213	19,754	19,748	18,933	17,731	15,948	14,716	13,088	12,277	12,698	13,130	13,763	16,000	22,000
Albany	967	837	882	1,008	707	614	555	506	460	411	491	613	671	868
Big Horn	351	371	462	395	384	350	326	287	259	247	282	309	335	523
Campbell	1,160	1,130	1,320	1,189	1,402	1,137	832	862	809	930	883	846	1,042	1,429
Carbon	1,021	1,145	1,025	1,090	861	775	670	429	421	512	549	580	756	1,191
Converse	622	552	531	508	534	429	494	391	374	349	396	455	470	655
Crook	204	173	172	192	192	134	100	122	108	121	165	165	154	187
Fremont	2,777	2,553	2,926	2,220	2,283	1,877	1,700	1,454	1,338	1,259	1,151	1,393	1,911	2,070
Goshen	412	334	348	252	233	269	332	356	326	272	305	306	312	385
Hot Springs	113	126	182	143	153	185	130	118	112	108	121	124	135	176
Johnson	345	289	329	237	189	191	136	107	92	137	135	121	192	303
Laramie	2,598	2,509	1,915	1,935	1,610	1,488	1,545	1,383	1,448	1,587	1,542	1,604	1,764	2,348
Lincoln	701	732	817	884	740	705	588	353	305	352	510	590	606	761
Natrona	2,766	2,800	2,713	2,753	2,732	2,737	2,506	2,217	2,035	1,961	1,980	2,103	2,442	4,129
Niobrara	58	81	77	63	67	76	132	81	84	119	95	135	89	117
Park	724	762	791	788	696	760	659	623	565	543	688	679	690	801
Platte	420	371	261	280	242	266	263	309	283	240	264	257	288	384
Sheridan	1,400	1,220	1,272	1,052	968	912	799	908	847	914	851	964	1,009	1,049
Sublette	109	222	219	244	220	186	160	101	81	56	99	79	148	202
Sweetwater	1,618	1,531	1,415	1,501	1,285	1,223	1,442	1,205	1,117	1,143	1,009	985	1,289	2,223
Teton	585	724	619	667	779	342	286	237	259	397	705	552	513	588
Uinta	584	722	823	914	928	762	740	620	614	648	526	536	701	907
Washakie	407	320	343	278	277	252	176	258	199	237	200	201	262	403
Weston	274	250	305	340	248	281	144	161	140	151	182	167	220	301

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WYOMING
1984 UNEMPLOYMENT RATE

COUNTY	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	1984 ANNUAL AVG.	1983 ANNUAL AVG.
Statewide	8.2	8.0	8.0	7.6	6.9	5.9	5.6	5.0	4.7	5.0	5.3	5.6	6.3	8.4
Albany	6.6	5.7	6.0	6.7	4.6	4.1	3.7	3.4	3.0	2.6	3.2	4.1	4.4	5.7
Big Horn	7.0	7.2	8.7	7.3	7.0	6.2	6.3	5.6	5.0	4.7	5.5	6.5	6.4	9.3
Campbell	6.2	6.1	7.0	6.2	7.1	5.7	4.3	4.5	4.2	4.9	4.6	4.6	5.5	7.2
Carbon	10.6	11.9	10.8	11.5	8.8	7.5	6.7	4.4	4.2	5.2	5.8	6.4	7.8	11.4
Converse	8.7	7.7	7.5	7.2	7.4	5.7	6.7	5.3	5.0	4.8	5.7	6.6	6.5	8.9
Crook	7.8	6.8	6.6	7.1	6.7	4.2	3.4	4.1	3.6	4.2	5.8	6.2	5.5	6.5
Fremont	15.2	13.9	15.8	12.2	12.3	10.1	9.5	8.2	7.4	7.0	6.8	8.5	10.6	10.8
Goshen	6.5	5.2	5.3	3.8	3.3	3.7	4.8	5.1	4.6	3.7	4.4	4.6	4.5	5.5
Hot Springs	3.9	4.3	6.1	4.8	5.0	5.9	4.4	4.1	3.7	3.6	4.1	4.3	4.5	6.0
Johnson	9.1	7.6	8.5	6.1	4.8	4.3	3.4	2.7	2.3	3.4	3.6	3.3	4.9	7.4
Laramie	7.7	7.4	5.7	5.6	4.6	4.2	4.4	4.0	4.1	4.6	4.5	4.7	5.1	6.7
Lincoln	12.3	12.8	13.5	14.6	12.1	10.5	9.0	5.5	4.6	5.7	8.3	9.8	9.8	12.4
Natrona	7.1	7.3	7.0	7.2	7.0	6.8	6.4	5.7	5.2	5.0	5.1	5.4	6.3	10.1
Niobrara	4.5	5.9	5.6	4.1	4.2	4.4	7.6	4.8	4.7	6.7	5.7	8.8	5.6	7.2
Park	5.9	6.1	6.3	6.1	4.8	4.4	3.8	3.6	3.5	3.9	5.4	5.3	4.8	5.6
Platte	10.6	9.1	6.4	6.7	5.5	5.8	6.0	7.0	5.9	5.3	6.0	6.1	6.6	9.0
Sheridan	11.1	9.7	10.0	8.3	7.5	7.0	6.4	7.1	6.9	7.5	7.3	8.3	8.1	7.8
Sublette	4.6	9.0	9.0	9.5	8.3	6.7	6.2	4.0	3.1	2.2	4.0	3.3	5.8	7.7
Sweetwater	8.0	7.6	7.0	7.3	6.2	5.7	7.0	6.1	5.5	5.6	5.0	5.0	6.3	9.9
Teton	8.8	10.8	9.4	10.4	11.8	3.5	2.8	2.3	3.0	5.6	11.1	8.4	6.7	7.5
Uinta	5.4	6.7	7.7	8.5	8.5	6.8	6.8	5.6	5.4	5.3	4.4	4.6	6.3	8.3
Washakie	8.0	6.3	6.7	5.4	5.2	4.5	3.1	4.7	3.6	4.1	3.8	3.9	4.9	7.5
Weston	7.4	6.9	8.4	9.1	6.5	7.3	3.9	4.2	3.6	3.9	4.9	4.6	5.9	7.9

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WYOMING LABOR FORCE TRENDS

The *Wyoming Labor Force Trends* is published monthly by the Research and Analysis Section of the Wyoming Employment Security Commission, Dick Sadler, Executive Director.

Please send comments, questions or address changes to Wyoming Employment Security Commission, Research and Analysis Section, P.O. Box 2760, Casper, WY 82602, Ph. (307) 235-3643.

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9/23/85 58895-1

WYOMING LABOR FORCE TRENDS

VOL. 22 NO. 3 AUG. 1985

TREND SETTERS

WYOMING	May '85	Jun. '85
Labor Force	257,656	268,712
Employment	240,999	252,269
Unemployment	16,657	16,416
Rate (Raw)	6.5	6.1
Rate (S.A.)	6.4	6.3
Mining Hourly Wage	$13.62	$13.04
Avg. Weekly Hours, Mining	43.6	45.9
USA		
Rate (S.A.)	7.3	7.3
Mining Hourly Wage	$11.87	$11.92
Avg. Weekly Hours, Mining	43.4	43.1
Consumer Price Index		
All Urban 1967 = 100		
U.S. City Avg.	321.3	322.3
Denver (Bimonthly)	315.9	
Year Change (U.S.)	+3.7	+3.7

S.A.-Seasonally Adjusted

In this issue of **Trends** *be sure to see these articles:*

—Happy 50th Anniversary Unemployment Insurance
—Two bright spots in Wyoming's economy

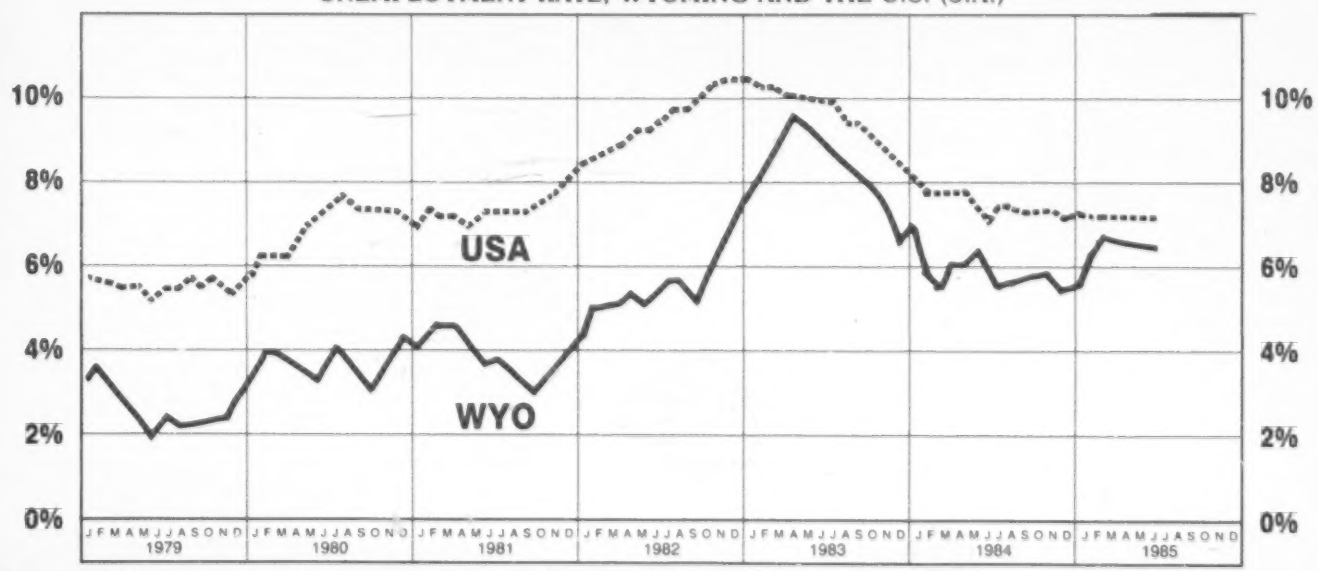
WE ARE BACK

In case you didn't notice, the Wyoming Labor Force Trends was not published for March, April, and May. Unforseeable problems required us to revamp our computer system in order to meet Bureau of Labor Statistics publication standards. That done, we will again be printing the *Trends* on a monthly basis. Some information for March, April, and May has been included in this June edition. If, however, you need something for those months that may not appear in this issue please contact us and we will make every effort to meet your requests.

IN THE U.S.A.

For the fifth consecutive month the Bureau of Labor Statistics reports that the seasonally adjusted civilian unemployment rate stays at 7.3 percent. June's figures also show that the total number of people unemployed is 8.4 million. Just released July data also shows an unemployment rate of 7.3 percent. However, the size of the labor force has increased enough so that now nearly 8.5 million unemployed persons account for 7.3 percent of the work force.

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE, WYOMING AND THE U.S. (S.A.)



WYOMING EMPLOYMENT SECURITY COMMISSION, Research & Analysis Section

WYOMING STATISTICS

Wyoming's June unemployment rate of 6.1 percent was lower than May's 6.5 percent, but slightly higher than the June 1984 rate of 5.9 percent. Table 2 shows this translates to a June labor force of just over 268,700, and the number considered unemployed is slightly over 16,400. The seasonally adjusted unemployment rates show a steady drop from February's rate of 6.8 percent down to 6.3 percent in June.

COUNTY HIGHLIGHTS

June was the first month in 1985 that showed no counties with double-digit unemployment rates. Fremont County had the highest unemployment rate at 9.9 percent, followed by Niobrara and Big Horn at 7.9 and 7.8 percent respectively. Teton and Albany counties had the lowest rates receiving 3.5 and 4.0 percent respectively. Natrona County had nearly 2,600 unemployed followed by Laramie County with 1,900 jobless.

The size of Wyoming's labor force has remained fairly static since 1982, however, there are some areas that are prospering. In the southwest part of the state Uinta, Sweetwater, Lincoln, and Sublette counties are quite active with many large construction and mining projects.

OTHER STATES

May data that is not seasonally adjusted is the most recent available for all states. Of the six states bordering Wyoming only one, Idaho, at 7.6 percent had a higher unemployment rate than Wyoming's May rate of 6.5 percent. Here are the other border states and their respective rates: Colorado, 5.6; Nebraska, 4.7; South Dakota, 5.1; Montana, 6.4; and Utah at 6.0 percent. West Virginia and Louisiana had the highest preliminary May rates in the country at 11.6 and 11.1 percent respectively. Massachusetts had the nation's lowest May unemployment rate at 3.4 percent.

CURRENT EMPLOYMENT STATS

Our Current Employment Statistics Survey of Wyoming businesses is the source for material found here and in Table 3.

The expected seasonal increase in employment has occurred as the number of non-farm wage and salary workers increased by nearly five percent between May and June. The Service industry was responsible for the lion's share of this over-the-month increase. According to these preliminary June figures there are 6,300 or 18.4 percent more workers in Services in June than in May.

Between June of 1984 and June of 1985 there has been little change in non-ag employment for the Cheyenne and Casper areas as well as the state as a whole. The Government sector is one exception. There are approximately 3,000 more federal, state, and local government employees this June compared to June of 1984.

HAPPY 50TH ANNIVERSARY UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE

On August 14, 1935 President Franklin Delano Roosevelt signed into law the Social Security Act. This paved the way for a nationwide program of unemployment insurance which was designed to protect workers against the risk of wage loss when out of work. The Wyoming Legislature didn't pass enabling legislation which was modeled in accordance with the Social Security Act until 1937. At any rate on August 14, 1985 in Washington, D.C. a special commemoration was held to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the unemployment compensation system.

Unemployment Insurance (UI) is a product of federal and state legislation which recognizes that there are national and local concerns over unemployment and the measures needed to alleviate it. Now in its 50th year, UI has become one of this country's most successful social programs. While meeting its primary goal of providing short-term financial assistance to job losers as they look for work, UI also provided many other less tangible benefits to our society.

For one, the UI program aids the business community by acting as a stabilizing agent for the economy during periods of high unemployment. This in effect mitigates the effects of recessionary pressures. Psychologically UI helps preserve morale and take the panic out of job hunting by easing personal hardships of recently unemployed workers. The UI system is also the catalyst for what is becoming an extensive labor market information system. This information helps the government and employers solve problems and make important planning decisions that affect the future of business and the economy in this country.

TWO BRIGHT SPOTS

Just in case you may not have heard there are a couple of very positive things happening in Wyoming's economy this summer. While some parts of the state seem to be mired in stagnant no-growth economic situations, the four county area in the southwest corner of the state is literally booming with large construction projects.

Close to the point where the Lincoln, Sweetwater, and Sublette Counties' borders intersect is the site where nearly 4,300 employees are working on Exxon's LaBarge Project. The $2.2 billion plant will produce carbon dioxide to be used in enhanced oil recovery methods. If and when they proceed with the second phase of the project, employment could peak at around 5,000.

There are many other large projects in that area, some of which are: the $250 million Chevron fertilizer plant; the Pacific Power and Light Company's $312 million job of putting scrubbers in the Jim Bridger power plant smokestacks; and Amoco's $100 million Anschutz Ranch East gas processing plant.

Agriculture has certainly seen its share of woes lately, but a couple of areas in the state feel that this could be a bannner year for sugar beet production. Both the Big Horn Basin (Worland area) and the Platte Valley (Torrington area) regions are expecting increased tonnage per acre and relatively high sugar content compared to the last several years. According to reliable sources, it is a possibility that Wyoming beet growers could see their best crop ever. Barring untimely fall freezes that could hurt the crop, sugar producers could have longer than usual beet campaigns this year. This means those local businesses could enjoy an unusually active economy throughout the fall and winter.

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX - (1967 = 100)

ALL URBAN

	ALL ITEMS	FOOD	HOUSING	RENT	APPAREL	TRANSP.	MEDICAL
June 1985	322.3	309.3	350.4	263.6	204.6	321.8	401.7
Annual % Change	3.7	2.4	4.2	6.1	3.6	2.8	6.3

WAGE EARNERS AND CLERICAL WORKERS

	ALL ITEMS	FOOD	HOUSING	RENT	APPAREL	TRANSP.	MEDICAL
June 1985	318.7	308.8	344.0	262.7	203.7	323.6	399.8
Annual % Change	4.1	2.3	5.5	6.1	3.9	2.6	6.2

RECENT RESEARCH AND ANALYSIS PUBLICATIONS

- **1985 Wyoming Annual Planning Report;** a comprehensive analysis of labor market developments for the state and its counties.
- **State and County Summary of Covered Employment Annual Report;** gives average employment and average weekly wages by industry for the state and its counties for 1981, 1982, and 1983.
- **Second Quarter 1985 Report of Applicants and Job Openings;** comes from information supplied by Wyoming's 16 Job Service Centers entailing an analysis of job openings and applicants and characteristics of both.
- **Occupational Employment Statistics, Manufacturing and Hospitals in Wyoming: 1983;** based on a sample of these industries, this report identifies the staffing patterns and occupations comprising these industries.
- **The Statistical Review of Wyoming;** not published since the mid-1970's, this 150-page report compiles all the significant data generated by the Wyoming Employment Security Commission from 1939 to 1984.
- **Wyoming Occupational Outlook;** just released, this report projects industry and occupational growth in Wyoming up to 1990. It also provides information concerning the number of expected job openings in many occupations.

Table 1

WYOMING ECONOMIC INDICATORS

ITEM	JUN 1985 [1]	MAY 1985 [1]	JUN 1984 [2]	Percent change From A Month Ago	Percent change From A Year Ago
WYOMING EMPLOYMENT DATA					
Total Civilian Labor Force	268,712	257,656	269,281	4.3	- 0.2
Unemployment	16,416	16,657	15,948	- 1.4	2.9
Employed Labor Force	252,296	240,999	253,333	4.7	- 0.4
a. Covered Employment (Under Wyo. UI Law)[3]	195,500	187,600	196,756	4.2	- 0.6
b. Agriculture[3]	18,148	13,443	18,483	35.0	- 1.8
Total Unemployment Rate (Wyo.) Seas. Adj.*	6.1% 6.3%*	6.5% 6.4%*	5.9% 6.1%*	XXX	XXX
Total Unemployment Rate (U.S.) Seas. Adj.*	7.5% 7.3%*	7.0% 7.3%*	7.4% 7.2%*	XXX	XXX
Insured Unemployment Rate (Wyo.)[4]	2.0%	2.4%	1.8%	XXX	XXX
HOURS & EARNINGS					
Mining (Production Workers):					
Average Weekly Earnings	$ 598.54	$ 593.83	$ 560.70	8.8	6.7
Average Weekly Hours	45.9	43.6	43.6	5.3	5.3
Average Hourly Earnings	$ 13.04	$ 13.62	$ 12.86	- 4.3	1.4
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE					
Claims Filed in Local Offices	17,832	23,787	19,433	- 25.0	- 8.2
a. Initial	2,089	2,307	2,042	- 9.4	2.3
Weeks Compensated	8,151	13,790	16,744	- 40.9	- 51.3
Total Amount Benefits Paid	$ 2,199,294	$ 3,700,217	$ 2,380,512	- 40.6	7.6
Average Weekly Benefit Payment	$ 146.93	$ 144.85	$ 142.17	1.4	3.3
EMPLOYMENT SERVICE					
New Applications Received During Month	4,738	4,208	5,156	12.6	- 8.1
Non-Ag. Openings Received	4,820	3,918	4,888	23.0	- 1.4
Non-Ag. Placements	4,303	3,087	4,430	39.4	- 2.9
UNITED STATES DATA					
HOURS & EARNINGS					
Mining (Production Workers):					
Average Weekly Earnings	$ 513.75	$ 515.16	$ 507.79	- 0.3	1.2
Average Weekly Hours	43.1	43.4	43.7	- 0.7	- 1.4
Average Hourly Earnings	$ 11.92	$ 11.87	$ 11.62	0.4	2.6
PRICE INDEXES					
Consumer Price Index 1967 = 100	322.3	321.3	310.7	0.3	3.7
Producer Prices, All Commodities	311.3	309.9	309.5	0.5	0.6
Retail Prices of Food 1967 = 100	309.3	308.9	302.0	0.1	2.4

[1] Preliminary. [2] Final. [3] Not Benchmarked to the Current Population Survey. [4] Rate does not include claimants receiving benefits under extended benefit provisions.

Table 2

WYOMING
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE & UNEMPLOYMENT
(Prepared in Cooperation with U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics)

COUNTY	LABOR FORCE					UNEMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT RATE		
	JUN 1985	MAY 1985	JUN 1984	%CHANGE MAY-JUN	%CHANGE JUN-JUN	JUN 1985	MAY 1985	JUN 1984	JUN 1985	MAY 1985	JUN 1984
Statewide	268,712	257,656	269,281	4.3	- 0.2	16,416	16,657	15,948	6.1	6.5	5.9
Albany	14,930	15,253	15,119	- 2.1	- 1.2	591	722	614	4.0	4.7	4.1
Big Horn	5,441	5,286	5,681	2.9	- 4.2	426	431	350	7.8	8.2	6.2
Campbell	20,680	20,222	19,947	2.3	3.7	1,228	1,172	1,137	5.9	5.8	5.7
Carbon	9,794	9,259	10,389	5.8	- 5.7	659	721	775	6.7	7.8	7.5
Converse	7,870	7,521	7,515	4.6	4.7	608	588	429	7.7	7.8	5.7
Crook	2,995	2,694	3,197	11.2	- 6.3	126	148	134	4.2	5.5	4.2
Fremont	17,480	17,177	18,527	1.8	- 5.7	1,737	1,762	1,877	9.9	10.3	10.1
Goshen	7,538	7,274	7,373	3.6	2.2	358	337	269	4.7	4.6	3.7
Hot Springs	2,959	2,925	3,143	1.2	- 5.9	157	166	185	5.3	5.7	5.9
Johnson	4,211	3,856	4,399	9.2	- 4.2	207	216	191	4.9	5.6	4.3
Laramie	36,166	35,897	35,849	0.7	0.9	1,900	1,862	1,488	5.3	5.2	4.2
Lincoln	7,736	7,038	6,707	9.9	15.3	528	598	705	6.8	8.5	10.5
Natrona	39,142	39,620	40,240	- 1.2	- 2.7	2,572	2,640	2,737	6.6	6.7	6.8
Niobrara	1,691	1,628	1,727	3.9	- 2.1	133	181	76	7.9	11.1	4.4
Park	16,589	13,981	17,205	18.7	- 3.6	786	792	760	4.7	5.7	4.4
Platte	4,696	4,477	4,604	4.9	2.0	308	271	266	6.6	6.1	5.8
Sheridan	12,810	12,600	13,056	1.7	- 1.9	874	948	912	6.8	7.5	7.0
Sublette	2,898	2,784	2,774	4.1	4.5	133	132	186	4.6	4.7	6.7
Sweetwater	21,917	21,289	21,443	2.9	2.2	1,338	1,196	1,223	6.1	5.6	5.7
Teton	9,950	6,495	9,666	53.2	2.9	352	471	342	3.5	7.2	3.5
Uinta	11,758	11,305	11,222	4.0	4.8	823	765	762	7.0	6.8	6.8
Washakie	5,705	5,323	5,667	7.2	0.7	329	321	252	5.8	6.0	4.5
Weston	3,755	3,753	3,832	0.1	- 2.0	245	217	281	6.5	5.8	7.3

The ESC wishes to stress that the data contained in this table are only estimates. The data for the current month is a preliminary estimate and will be revised next month, and revised yet again in about one year. On an annual average basis, the accuracy of these estimates may vary from the actual figures by as much as eight percent, plus or minus.

NON-FARM WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT IN WYOMING [1]

Table 3

(Prepared in Cooperation with U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics)

INDUSTRY	EMPLOYMENT (In thousands)					% Change on Total Emp.	
	JUN 1985[2]	MAY 1985[3]	APR 1985	MAR 1985	JUN 1984	MAY 1985	JUN 1984
	Total	Total	Total	Total	Total	to JUN 1985	to JUN 1985
WYOMING NON-FARM WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT							
Total Non-Farm Wage & Salary Employment	208.3	198.7	189.7	187.5	207.2	4.8	0.5
Manufacturing	8.1	8.1	7.9	7.9	8.0	0.0	1.3
Durable Goods	3.9	3.8	3.7	3.8	3.9	2.6	0.0
Nondurable Goods	4.3	4.3	4.2	4.1	4.1	0.0	4.9
Petroleum & Coal Products	1.3	1.2	1.2	1.1	1.2	8.3	8.3
Total Non-Manufacturing Employment	200.2	190.6	181.8	179.6	199.2	5.0	0.5
Mining	26.0	25.0	24.6	24.9	27.4	4.0	- 5.1
Contract Construction	12.6	11.8	10.7	8.8	15.1	6.8	- 16.6
Transportation & Public Utilities	15.3	15.2	15.3	15.1	16.2	0.7	- 5.6
Railroad Transportation	3.0	3.2	3.2	3.0	3.3	- 6.3	- 9.1
Transportation except Railroads	5.7	5.6	5.6	5.6	5.8	1.8	- 1.8
Comm., Elect., Gas & Sani. Serv.	6.5	6.4	6.5	6.5	7.1	1.6	- 8.5
Wholesale & Retail Trade	43.9	43.3	42.0	42.1	46.2	1.4	- 5.0
Wholesale Trade	9.3	9.1	9.1	9.0	9.0	2.2	3.3
Retail Trade	34.6	34.2	33.0	33.1	37.2	1.2	- 7.0
Food Stores	5.1	5.1	5.0	5.0	5.0	0.0	2.0
Automotive Dealers & Serv. Stat.	6.2	6.0	5.8	5.7	6.3	3.3	- 1.6
Eating & Drinking Places	10.9	11.1	10.8	10.8	13.0	- 1.8	- 16.2
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate	8.0	7.9	7.8	8.0	8.0	1.3	0.0
Services	40.6	34.3	30.6	29.8	35.5	18.4	14.4
Personal Services	1.7	1.7	1.8	1.7	1.9	0.0	- 10.5
Medical & Other Health Services	6.2	6.2	6.1	6.1	6.3	0.0	- 1.6
Government	53.8	53.0	50.8	50.8	50.8	1.5	5.9
Federal Government	9.3	7.9	6.7	6.6	8.3	17.7	12.0
State & Local Government	44.5	45.1	44.1	44.2	42.4	- 1.3	5.0
State Government	13.1	13.3	13.0	12.9	12.7	- 1.5	3.1
Local Government	31.4	31.8	31.1	31.4	29.7	- 1.3	5.7

(See Footnotes at End of Table)

Table 3 (Cont'd) *NON-FARM WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT IN WYOMING* [1]

INDUSTRY	EMPLOYMENT (In thousands)					% Change on Total Emp.	
	JUN 1985[2]	MAY 1985[3]	APR 1985	MAR 1985	JUN 1984	MAY 1985	JUN 1984
	Total	Total	Total	Total	Total	to JUN 1985	to JUN 1985
CASPER (Natrona County)							
TOTAL NON-FARM WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT	33.8	33.7	33.1	32.7	34.3	0.3	- 1.5
Manufacturing	1.5	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.3	7.1	15.4
Nondurable Goods	0.8	0.8	0.7	0.7	0.8	0.0	0.0
Petroleum & Coal Products	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.0	0.0
Total Non-Manufacturing Employment	32.3	32.3	31.7	31.3	33.3	0.0	- 2.1
Mining	4.4	4.5	4.5	4.5	5.7	- 2.2	- 22.8
Oil & Gas Extraction	3.9	4.0	4.0	4.1	5.1	- 2.5	- 23.5
Other Mining, Quarrying, etc.	0.4	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.6	- 20.0	- 33.3
Contract Construction	2.9	2.7	2.5	2.1	2.3	7.4	26.1
Transportation & Public Utilities	2.0	1.9	2.0	2.0	2.2	5.3	- 9.1
Wholesale & Retail Trade	9.3	9.5	9.4	9.3	9.1	- 2.1	- 2.2
Wholesale Trade	3.6	3.7	3.7	3.7	3.4	- 2.7	5.9
Retail Trade	5.7	5.8	5.7	5.6	5.7	- 1.7	0.0
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate	1.6	1.7	1.6	1.6	1.7	- 5.9	- 5.9
Services	5.8	5.6	5.6	5.5	5.8	3.6	0.0
Government	6.4	6.4	6.1	6.3	6.2	0.0	3.2
Federal Government	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.7	0.0	- 28.6
State & Local Government	5.9	5.9	5.6	4.8	5.5	0.0	7.3
CHEYENNE (Laramie County)							
TOTAL NON-FARM WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT	30.9	30.4	29.8	29.3	31.0	1.6	0.3
Manufacturing	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1	0.0	0.0
Total Non-Manufacturing Employment	29.8	29.3	28.7	28.2	29.9	1.7	- 0.3
Contract Construction	1.2	1.2	1.1	- 0.9	1.6	0.0	- 25.0
Transportation & Public Utilities	3.5	3.5	3.4	3.2	3.9	0.0	- 10.3
Wholesale & Retail Trade	7.2	7.1	7.0	7.1	7.3	1.4	- 1.4
Wholesale Trade	1.0	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.8	11.1	25.0
Retail Trade	6.2	6.2	6.1	6.2	6.5	0.0	- 4.6
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate	1.9	1.9	1.9	1.9	1.9	0.0	0.0
Services & Miscellaneous	5.5	5.4	5.2	5.0	5.2	1.9	5.8
Government	10.5	10.3	10.1	10.0	10.0	1.9	5.0
Federal Government	2.6	2.6	2.5	2.5	2.4	0.0	8.3
State & Local Government	7.9	7.7	7.6	7.5	7.6	2.6	3.9

[1] Estimates include all full and part-time wage and salary workers in non-ag, establishments who worked or received pay during the week which includes the 12th of the month. Proprietors, self-employeds, domestic servants and personnel of the armed forces are excluded. [2] Subject to revision. [3] Revised figures.

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WYOMING LABOR FORCE TRENDS

The *Wyoming Labor Force Trends* is published monthly by the Research and Analysis Section of the Wyoming Employment Security Commission, Dick Sadler, Executive Director.

Please send comments, questions or address changes to Wyoming Employment Security Commission, Research and Analysis Section, P.O. Box 2760, Casper, WY 82602, Ph. (307) 235-3643.

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10/7/85 58895-1

WYOMING LABOR FORCE TRENDS

VOL. 22 NO. 4 SEPT. 1985

TREND SETTERS

WYOMING	June '85	July '85
Labor Force	269,201	261,142
Employment	252,771	244,948
Unemployment	16,430	16,194
Rate (Raw)	6.1	6.2
Rate (S.A.)	6.3	6.6
Mining Hourly Wage	$13.27	$13.35
Avg. Weekly Hours, Mining	44.2	42.4
USA		
Rate (S.A.)	7.3	7.3
Mining Hourly Wage	$11.98	$11.98
Avg. Weekly Hours, Mining	43.7	43.3
Consumer Price Index		
All Urban 1967 = 100		
U.S. City Avg.	322.3	322.8
Denver (Bimonthly)		360.3
Year Change (U.S.)	+3.7	+3.6

S.A.-Seasonally Adjusted

THE NATIONAL SCENE

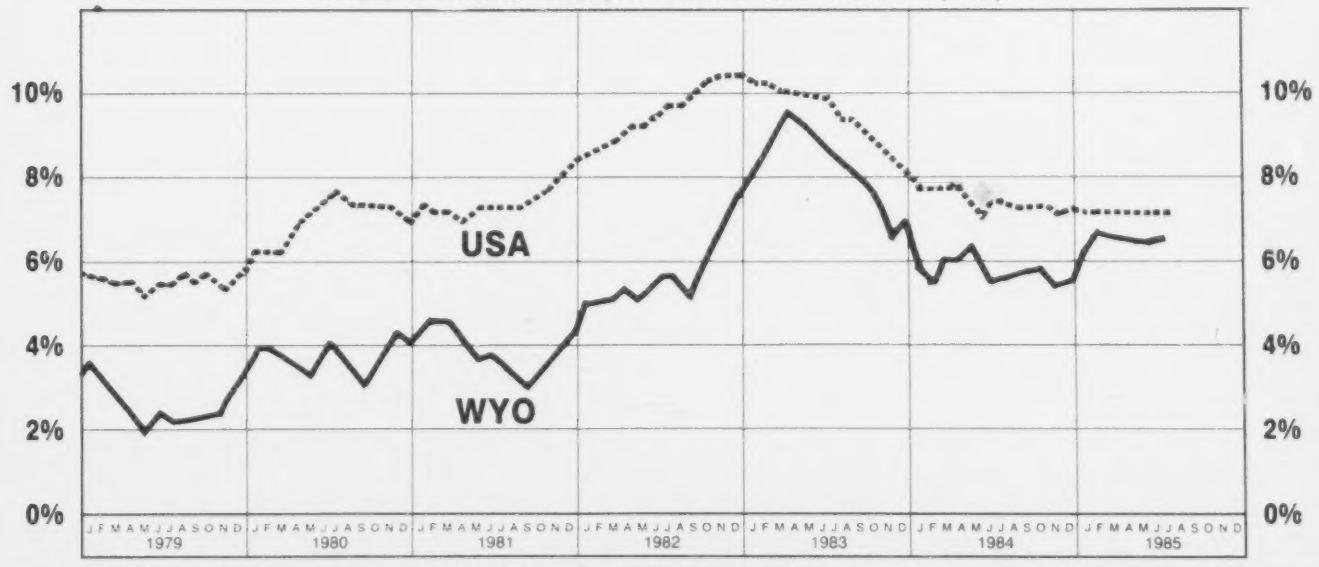
The Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) reported that employment rose in July while unemployment was little changed. The employed civilian labor force was estimated at 106.9 million while unemployment was pegged at 8.5 million for the month. The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate in the U.S. for July remained at 7.3 percent, the same as it has been since February.

The U.S. preliminary estimate for the month of August, at 7.0 percent, represents the lowest unemployment rate since April of 1980. It appears that 1985 will register the lowest unemployment the Nation has had since 1980, when the annual rate was 7.1 percent. Thus far this year unemployment has averaged 7.3 percent, which compared to 7.6 percent in 1981, 9.7 percent in 1982, 9.6 percent in 1983, and 7.5 percent last year in 1984.

IN WYOMING

Wyoming's 6.2 percent unemployment rate for July, was about the same as the June rate of 6.1 percent, and the level of unemployment was little changed at 16,200. The July rate compares to 5.6 percent, recorded in July 1984, with 14,700 unemployed. The highest July rate on record was 8.1 percent in 1983 and the lowest

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE, WYOMING AND THE U.S. (S.A.)



WYOMING EMPLOYMENT SECURITY COMMISSION, Research & Analysis Section

was 2.2 percent in 1979. The Wyoming July seasonally adjusted rate of 6.6 percent continued a bit lower than U.S. rate of 7.3 percent.

The July Wyoming labor force of 261,100 indicated a sharp seasonal decline of three percent from June but remained about the same as a year ago. The employed labor force traditionally peaks in June due to the hiring of recent graduates as well as students for summer jobs.

COUNTY HIGHLIGHTS

Fremont County recorded the only double-digit unemployment, 10.6 percent in July, followed by Big Horn at 8.5 percent. Teton County continued with the lowest unemployment, 3.3 percent. See Table 2. Assuming consistent historical trends, unemployment should decline through August or September.

Natrona County, with an unemployment level of 6.9 percent, continued with the highest number of unemployed, 2,700, followed by Laramie County with 1,800 unemployed. Crook had the fewest jobseekers, with 129 unemployed.

OTHER STATES

Unrevised June rates that are not seasonally adjusted are the most current data available for all states. Of the six states bordering Wyoming, two, Idaho and Montana at 7.0 and 6.8 percent, had higher unemployment than Wyoming's June rate of 6.1 percent. Colorado, Nebraska, South Dakota and Utah had rates of 5.5, 5.1, 5.3 and 6.0 percent respectively.

ESTABLISHMENT DATA

The Current Employment Statistics (CES) program, which is a survey of business establishments in Wyoming, is the source for material found here and in Table 3.

Preliminary CES results for the month of July show 206,500 non-agricultural wage and salary workers in Wyoming. This is a slight drop from June and an increase of 1,500, or 0.7 percent from July of 1984.

Trade and Government continue to be the dominate industries in terms of employment. Together they employ over 93,000 persons or nearly 50 percent of all the state's non-farm employment. Services is currently the fastest growing industry in Wyoming, up almost 16 percent, followed by government which was up almost 4 percent.

WYOMING PER CAPITA INCOME TUMBLES

In 1984 Wyoming's per capita income ranked a dismal 27th among the states at $12,224, 4.4 percent below the national average of $12,789 according to the U.S. Department of Commerce. Compare this to the glory days of 1978-1982 when the state was consistently ranked in the top ten.

WYOMING PER CAPITA INCOME

Year	Per Capita Income	Ranking	% of U.S. Average
1976	6,791	14th	107
1977	7,535	12th	108
1978	8,644	7th	111
1979	9,843	7th	114
1980	11,009	5th	116
1981	12,066	5th	114
1982	12,040	5th	108
1983	11,643	15th	99
1984	12,224	27th	96

The top ten states in 1984 were Alaska, with a per capita income of $17,487; Connecticut, with $16,556; New Jersey, with $15,440; Massachusetts, with $14,784; California, with $14,487; Maryland, with $14,464; New York, with $14,318; Colorado, with $13,847; Illinois, with $13,802; and Delaware at $13,685.

DID YOU KNOW THAT?

Only 15 percent of Wyoming's population is located in a metropolitan area. Every other state had a higher percentage.

Wyoming's 21.7 births per 1,000 people ranks the state third in the birth rate behind Utah and Alaska.

Wyoming's 115 physicians per 100,000 population ranks the state 48th in that category.

Seventy-eight percent of Wyoming's population has completed high school, which ranks the state fourth behind Alaska, Utah and Colorado.

The source for this data is the U.S. Census Bureau's Statistical Abstract of the United States for 1985.

LOWER PRICES IN CASPER?

According to the American Chamber of Commerce Researchers Association (ACCRA) Inter-City Cost of Living Index publication, prices have fallen in almost all categories in Casper compared to 1983. Real estate indicated the sharpest decline with the price of an 1,800 square foot new house falling from $84,833, second quarter 1983, to $74,267 in the second quarter of this year. The same house would cost as little as $55,000 in Duluth, MN and as much as $181,300 in San Francisco, CA. The all-item index for Casper for the second quarter stood at 101.5, not much above the national average base index of 100.

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX - (1967 = 100)

ALL URBAN

	ALL ITEMS	FOOD	HOUSING	RENT	APPAREL	TRANSP.	MEDICAL
July 1985	322.8	309.5	351.6	265.0	202.8	321.8	404.0
Annual % Change	3.6	2.1	4.0	6.1	3.2	2.8	6.2

WAGE EARNERS AND CLERICAL WORKERS

	ALL ITEMS	FOOD	HOUSING	RENT	APPAREL	TRANSP.	MEDICAL
July 1985	319.1	309.0	345.0	264.1	201.8	323.5	402.0
Annual % Change	3.8	2.0	5.0	6.1	3.3	2.6	6.2

RECENT RESEARCH AND ANALYSIS PUBLICATIONS

- **1985 Wyoming Annual Planning Report;** a comprehensive analysis of labor market developments for the state and its counties.
- **State and County Summary of Covered Employment Annual Report;** gives average employment and average weekly wages by industry for the state and its counties for 1981, 1982, and 1983.
- **Second Quarter 1985 Report of Applicants and Job Openings;** comes from information supplied by Wyoming's 16 Job Service Centers entailing an analysis of job openings and applicants and characteristics of both.
- **Occupational Employment Statistics, Manufacturing and Hospitals in Wyoming: 1983;** based on a sample of these industries, this report identifies the staffing patterns and occupations comprising these industries.
- **The Statistical Review of Wyoming;** not published since the mid-1970's, this 150-page report compiles all the significant data generated by the Wyoming Employment Security Commission from 1939 to 1984.
- **Wyoming Occupational Outlook;** just released, this report projects industry and occupational growth in Wyoming up to 1990. It also provides information concerning the number of expected job openings in many occupations.

Table 1

WYOMING ECONOMIC INDICATORS

ITEM	JUL 1985 [1]	JUN 1985 [1]	JUL 1984 [2]	Percent change From A Month Ago	Percent change From A Year Ago
WYOMING EMPLOYMENT DATA					
Total Civilian Labor Force	261,142	269,201	261,801	- 3.0	- 0.3
Unemployment	16,194	16,430	14,716	- 1.4	10.0
Employed Labor Force	244,948	252,771	247,085	- 3.1	- 0.9
a. Covered Employment (Under Wyo. UI Law)[3]	194,600	195,500	195,822	- 0.5	- 0.6
b. Agriculture[3]	16,333	18,148	16,635	- 10.0	- 1.8
Total Unemployment Rate (Wyo.) Seas. Adj.*	6.2% 6.6%*	6.1% 6.3%*	5.6% 6.0%*	XXX	XXX
Total Unemployment Rate (U.S.) Seas. Adj.*	7.4% 7.3%*	7.5% 7.3%*	7.5% 7.5%*	XXX	XXX
Insured Unemployment Rate (Wyo.)[4]	1.8%	2.0%	1.6%	XXX	XXX
HOURS & EARNINGS					
Mining (Production Workers):					
Average Weekly Earnings	$ 566.04	$ 586.53	$ 544.00	- 3.5	4.1
Average Weekly Hours	42.4	44.2	42.5	- 4.1	- 0.2
Average Hourly Earnings	$ 13.35	$ 13.27	$ 12.80	0.6	4.3
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE					
Claims Filed in Local Offices	19,016	17,832	14,023	6.6	35.6
a. Initial	2,587	2,089	1,758	23.8	47.2
Weeks Compensated	14,019	14,867	11,714	- 5.7	19.7
Total Amount Benefits Paid	$ 2,079,617	$ 2,199,294	$ 1,667,539	- 5.4	24.7
Average Weekly Benefit Payment	$ 147.01	$ 146.93	$ 142.35	0.1	3.3
EMPLOYMENT SERVICE					
New Applications Received During Month	2,968	4,738	3,265	- 37.4	- 9.1
Non-Ag. Openings Received	3,110	4,820	3,745	- 35.5	- 17.0
Non-Ag. Placements	2,376	4,303	2,868	- 44.8	- 17.2
UNITED STATES DATA					
HOURS & EARNINGS					
Mining (Production Workers):					
Average Weekly Earnings	$ 518.73	$ 523.53	$ 500.09	- 0.9	3.7
Average Weekly Hours	43.3	43.7	43.0	- 0.9	0.7
Average Hourly Earnings	$ 11.98	$ 11.98	$ 11.63	0.0	3.0
PRICE INDEXES					
Consumer Price Index 1967 = 100	322.8	322.3	311.7	0.2	3.6
Producer Prices, All Commodities	309.0	309.1	311.9	0.0	- 0.9
Retail Prices of Food 1967 = 100	309.5	309.3	303.2	0.1	2.1

[1] Preliminary. [2] Final. [3] Not Benchmarked to the Current Population Survey. [4] Rate does not include claimants receiving benefits under extended benefit provisions.

Table 2

WYOMING
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE & UNEMPLOYMENT

COUNTY	LABOR FORCE					UNEMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT RATE		
	JUL 1985	JUN 1985	JUL 1984	%CHANGE JUN-JUL	%CHANGE JUL-JUL	JUL 1985	JUN 1985	JUL 1984	JUL 1985	JUN 1985	JUL 1984
Statewide	261,142	269,201	261,801	- 3.0	- 0.3	16,194	16,430	14,716	6.2	6.1	5.6
Albany	14,358	14,841	14,954	- 3.3	- 4.0	577	591	555	4.0	4.0	3.7
Big Horn	5,260	5,423	5,142	- 3.0	2.3	446	426	326	8.5	7.9	6.3
Campbell	20,277	20,566	19,168	- 1.4	5.8	1,335	1,226	832	6.6	6.0	4.3
Carbon	9,647	9,731	10,033	- 0.9	- 3.8	612	661	670	6.3	6.8	6.7
Converse	7,855	7,830	7,361	0.3	6.7	583	608	494	7.4	7.8	6.7
Crook	2,736	2,981	2,920	- 8.2	- 6.3	129	125	100	4.7	4.2	3.4
Fremont	16,511	17,396	17,836	- 5.1	- 7.4	1,757	1,736	1,700	10.6	10.0	9.5
Goshen	6,986	7,503	6,980	- 6.9	0.1	331	357	332	4.7	4.8	4.8
Hot Springs	2,919	3,026	2,934	- 3.5	- 0.5	172	157	130	5.9	5.2	4.4
Johnson	4,057	4,192	3,998	- 3.2	1.5	232	207	136	5.7	4.9	3.4
Laramie	35,103	36,341	35,078	- 3.4	0.1	1,826	1,907	1,545	5.2	5.2	4.4
Lincoln	7,787	7,940	6,556	- 1.9	18.8	534	531	588	6.9	6.7	9.0
Natrona	38,545	39,647	39,360	- 2.8	- 2.1	2,655	2,578	2,506	6.9	6.5	6.4
Niobrara	1,664	1,684	1,733	- 1.2	- 4.0	136	133	132	8.2	7.9	7.6
Park	16,148	16,504	17,383	- 2.2	- 7.1	775	785	659	4.8	4.8	3.8
Platte	4,128	4,674	4,375	- 11.7	- 5.6	293	307	263	7.1	6.6	6.0
Sheridan	12,130	12,738	12,582	- 4.8	- 3.6	811	873	799	6.7	6.9	6.4
Sublette	3,059	3,140	2,580	- 2.6	18.6	141	136	160	4.6	4.3	6.2
Sweetwater	21,236	22,050	20,461	- 3.7	3.8	1,228	1,341	1,442	5.8	6.1	7.0
Teton	10,395	9,894	10,136	5.1	2.6	343	351	286	3.3	3.5	2.8
Uinta	10,999	11,688	10,902	- 5.9	0.9	728	821	740	6.6	7.0	6.8
Washakie	5,676	5,677	5,601	0.0	1.3	348	328	176	6.1	5.8	3.1
Weston	3,666	3,736	3,727	- 1.9	- 1.6	204	244	144	5.6	6.5	3.9

The ESC wishes to stress that the data contained in this table are only estimates. The data for the current month is a preliminary estimate and will be revised next month, and revised yet again in about one year. On an annual average basis, the accuracy of these estimates may vary from the actual figures by as much as eight percent, plus or minus.

Table 3

NON-FARM WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT IN WYOMING [1]

(Prepared in Cooperation with U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics)

INDUSTRY	EMPLOYMENT (In thousands)			% Change on Total Emp.	
	JUL 1985[2]	JUN 1985[1]	JUL 1984	JUN 1985	JUL 1984
	Total	Total	Total	to JUL 1985	to JUL 1985
WYOMING NON-FARM WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT					
Total Non-Farm Wage & Salary Employment	206.5	208.8	205.0	- 1.1	0.7
Manufacturing	8.4	8.4	8.5	0.0	- 1.2
Durable Goods	4.1	4.1	4.4	0.0	- 6.8
Nondurable Goods	4.3	4.3	4.1	0.0	4.9
Petroleum & Coal Products	1.2	1.2	1.2	0.0	0.0
Total Non-Manufacturing Employment	198.1	200.4	196.5	- 1.1	0.8
Mining	26.5	26.1	27.3	1.5	- 2.9
Contract Construction	13.3	12.7	14.9	4.7	- 10.7
Transportation & Public Utilities	15.4	15.4	16.3	0.0	- 5.5
Railroad Transportation	3.0	3.2	3.3	- 6.3	- 9.1
Transportation except Railroads	5.9	5.7	5.9	3.5	0.0
Comm., Elect., Gas & Sani. Serv.	6.5	6.5	7.1	0.0	- 8.5
Wholesale & Retail Trade	44.2	43.9	46.8	0.7	- 5.6
Wholesale Trade	9.2	9.2	9.0	0.0	2.2
Retail Trade	35.0	34.8	37.8	0.6	- 7.4
Food Stores	5.2	5.1	5.0	2.0	4.0
Automotive Dealers & Serv. Stat.	6.4	6.2	6.6	3.2	- 3.0
Eating & Drinking Places	10.9	11.1	13.1	- 1.8	- 16.8
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate	8.1	8.1	8.0	0.0	1.3
Services	41.4	40.8	35.8	1.5	15.6
Personal Services	1.7	1.7	1.9	0.0	- 10.5
Medical & Other Health Services	6.2	6.2	6.3	0.0	- 1.6
Government	49.2	53.4	47.4	- 7.9	3.8
Federal Government	9.3	9.2	8.5	1.1	9.4
State & Local Government	39.9	44.2	38.9	- 9.7	2.6
State Government	12.7	13.1	12.5	- 3.1	1.6
Local Government	27.2	31.1	26.4	- 12.5	3.0

(See Footnotes at End of Table)

NON-FARM WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT IN WYOMING [1]

Table 3 (Cont'd)

INDUSTRY	EMPLOYMENT (In thousands)			% Change on Total Emp.	
	JUL 1985[2]	JUN 1985[3]	JUL 1984	JUN 1985	JUL 1984
	Total	Total	Total	to JUL 1985	to JUL 1985
CASPER (Natrona County)					
TOTAL NON-FARM WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT	33.7	34.2	34.2	- 1.5	- 1.5
Manufacturing	1.5	1.4	1.4	7.1	7.1
Nondurable Goods	0.7	0.8	0.7	- 12.5	0.0
Petroleum & Coal Products	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.0	0.0
Total Non-Manufacturing Employment	32.2	32.8	32.8	- 1.8	- 1.8
Mining	4.6	4.6	5.8	0.0	- 20.7
Oil & Gas Extraction	4.2	4.1	5.2	2.4	- 19.2
Other Mining, Quarrying, etc.	0.4	0.5	0.6	- 20.0	- 33.3
Contract Construction	3.0	2.9	2.3	3.4	30.4
Transportation & Public Utilities	2.0	2.1	2.2	- 4.8	- 9.1
Wholesale & Retail Trade	9.2	9.3	9.3	- 1.1	- 1.1
Wholesale Trade	3.6	3.6	3.5	0.0	2.9
Retail Trade	5.5	5.7	5.8	- 3.5	- 5.2
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate	1.7	1.6	1.7	6.3	0.0
Services	5.8	5.8	5.9	0.0	- 1.7
Government	5.9	6.5	5.6	- 9.2	5.4
Federal Government	0.5	0.5	0.7	0.0	- 28.6
State & Local Government	5.4	6.0	4.9	- 10.0	10.2
CHEYENNE (Laramie County)					
TOTAL NON-FARM WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT	30.6	31.1	30.3	- 1.6	1.0
Manufacturing	1.1	1.1	1.1	0.0	0.0
Total Non-Manufacturing Employment	29.5	30.0	29.2	- 1.7	1.0
Contract Construction	1.4	1.2	1.6	16.7	- 12.5
Transportation & Public Utilities	3.4	3.6	3.9	- 5.6	- 12.8
Wholesale & Retail Trade	7.3	7.2	7.6	1.4	- 3.9
Wholesale Trade	0.9	1.0	0.9	- 10.0	0.0
Retail Trade	6.3	6.2	6.7	1.6	- 6.0
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate	1.9	1.9	1.9	0.0	0.0
Services & Miscellaneous	5.7	5.6	5.0	1.8	14.0
Government	9.8	10.5	9.2	- 6.7	6.5
Federal Government	2.6	2.6	2.4	0.0	8.3
State & Local Government	7.1	7.8	6.8	- 9.0	4.4

[1] Estimates include all full and part-time wage and salary workers in non-ag. establishments who worked or received pay during the week which includes the 12th of the month. Proprietors, self-employeds, domestic servants and personnel of the armed forces are excluded. [2] Subject to revision. [3] Revised figures.

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